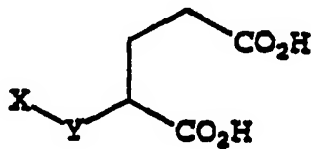
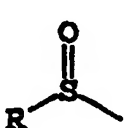
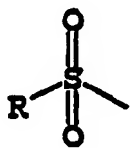
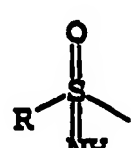


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## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> :</b> <b>C07C 317/44, 381/10, C07D 213/71,</b> <b>A61K 31/19, 31/44</b>	<b>A1</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 98/45257</b>  <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 15 October 1998 (15.10.98)
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US98/06583  <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 3 April 1998 (03.04.98)  <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 08/835,572                      9 April 1997 (09.04.97)                      US  <b>(71) Applicant:</b> GUILFORD PHARMACEUTICALS INC. [US/US]; 6611 Tributary Street, Baltimore, MD 21224 (US).  <b>(72) Inventors:</b> JACKSON, Paul, F.; 310 Huntsman Court, Bel Air, MD 21105 (US). TAYS, Kevin, L.; Apartment 1415, 6847 Old Waterloo Road, Elkridge, MD 21227 (US). MACLIN, Keith, M.; 5005 Remmell Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206 (US). SLUSHER, Barbara, S.; 7424 Longfield Drive, Kingsville, MD 21087 (US).  <b>(74) Agent:</b> NATH, Gary, M.; Nath & Associates, Suite 750, 1835 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006 (US).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
<b>(54) Title:</b> THIO DERIVATIVES AS NAALADASE INHIBITORS  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(I)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(II)</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(III)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(IV)</p> </div> </div>		
<b>(57) Abstract</b>  <p>The present invention relates to thio derivatives of formula (I), wherein X is selected from the group consisting of (II), (III) and (IV), Y is CR<sub>1</sub>R<sub>2</sub>, NR<sub>3</sub> or O and R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are as defined in the claims, that inhibit N-Acetylated α-Linked Acidic Dipeptidase (NAALADase) enzyme activity, pharmaceutical compositions comprising such derivatives to inhibit NAALADase activity, to treat a glutamate abnormality and to treat a prostate disease in an animal.</p>		

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## THIO DERIVATIVES AS NAALADASE INHIBITORS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION5      1.    Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to thio derivatives that inhibit N-Acetylated  $\alpha$ -Linked Acidic Dipeptidase (NAALADase) enzyme activity, pharmaceutical compositions comprising such derivatives, and methods of using such derivatives to inhibit NAALADase activity, to treat a  
10      glutamate abnormality and to treat a prostate disease in an animal.

2.    Description of the Prior Art15                      Glutamate Abnormalities

Glutamate has been implicated in various neurological diseases and conditions, including epilepsy, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's Disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Huntington's  
20      Disease, schizophrenia, chronic pain, ischemia and neuronal loss following hypoxia, hypoglycemia, ischemia, trauma and nervous insult. Neurons release glutamate in great quantities when they are deprived of oxygen, as may occur during an ischemic brain insult such as a stroke or  
25      a heart attack. This excess release of glutamate in turn causes over-stimulation (excitotoxicity) of NMDA, AMPA, Kainate and MGR receptors. When glutamate binds to these

receptors, ion channels in the cell membranes of the neurons open, permitting flows of ions across the cell membranes, e.g.,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^+$  into the cells and  $\text{K}^+$  out of the cells. These flows of ions, especially the influx of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , cause over-stimulation of the neurons. The over-stimulated neurons secrete more glutamate, creating a domino-effect which ultimately results in cell death via the production of proteases, lipases and free radicals.

Attempts to prevent excitotoxicity by blocking NMDA, AMPA, Kainate and MGR receptors have proven difficult because each receptor has multiple sites to which glutamate may bind. Many of the compositions that are effective in blocking the receptors are also toxic to animals. As such, there is currently no known effective treatment for glutamate abnormalities.

#### Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer is the leading form of cancer and the second leading cause of death from cancer for men in the United States. The American Cancer Society has estimated that in 1996 alone, 317,100 new cases of prostate cancer were diagnosed and 41,400 deaths were caused by prostate cancer. The incidence rate of prostate cancer increased 65% between 1980 and 1990, and will continue to rise with improved screening tests and longer life expectancies. While most men used to die of other illnesses before prostate cancer had a chance to



develop, higher prostate cancer mortality rates are expected as men live longer and the disease has more time to progress.

In 1993, the molecular cloning of Prostate Specific  
5 Membrane Antigen (PSMA) was reported as a potential  
prostate carcinoma marker and hypothesized to serve as a  
target for imaging and cytotoxic treatment modalities for  
prostate cancer. PSMA antibodies, particularly indium-  
111 labelled and itrium labelled PSMA antibodies, have  
10 been described and examined clinically for the diagnosis  
and treatment of prostate cancer. PSMA is expressed in  
prostatic ductal epithelium and is present in seminal  
plasma, prostatic fluid and urine. In 1996, it was found  
that the expression of PSMA cDNA confers the activity of  
15 NAALADase.

#### NAALADase Inhibitors

NAAG and NAALADase have been implicated in several  
human and animal pathological conditions. For example,  
it has been demonstrated that intra-hippocampal  
20 injections of NAAG elicit prolonged seizure activity.  
More recently, it was reported that rats genetically  
prone to epileptic seizures have a persistent increase in  
their basal level of NAALADase activity. These  
observations support the hypothesis that increased  
25 availability of synaptic glutamate elevates seizure  
susceptibility, and suggest that NAALADase inhibitors may

provide anti-epileptic activity.

NAAG and NAALADase have also been implicated in the pathogenesis of ALS and in the pathologically similar animal disease called Hereditary Canine Spinal Muscular Atrophy (HCSMA). It has been shown that concentrations of NAAG and its metabolites -- NAA, glutamate and aspartate -- are elevated two- to three-fold in the cerebrospinal fluid of ALS patients and HCSMA dogs. Additionally, NAALADase activity is significantly increased (two- to three-fold) in post-mortem spinal cord tissue from ALS patients and HCSMA dogs. As such, NAALADase inhibitors may be clinically useful in curbing the progression of ALS if increased metabolism of NAAG is responsible for the alterations of CSF levels of these acidic amino acids and peptides.

Abnormalities in NAAG levels and NAALADase activity have also been documented in post-mortem schizophrenic brain, specifically in the prefrontal and limbic brain regions.

The findings described above suggest that NAALADase inhibitors could be useful in treating glutamate abnormalities. In fact, the results of studies conducted by the present inventors confirm that NAALADase inhibitors are not only effective in treating glutamate abnormalities, but also effective in treating prostate diseases, particularly prostate cancer. Although the

cancer data relate to prostate cancer cells, NAALADase inhibitors are expected to be equally effective in treating cancer of other tissues where NAALADase enzyme reside, such as the brain, kidney and testis.

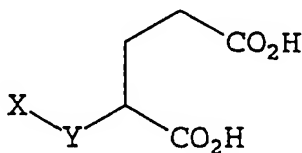
5 While a few NAALADase inhibitors have been identified, they have only been used in non-clinical research. Examples of such inhibitors include general metallopeptidase inhibitors such as o-phenanthroline, metal chelators such as EGTA and EDTA, and peptide  
10 analogs such as quisqualic acid and  $\beta$ -NAAG. Accordingly, a need exists for more NAALADase inhibitors to be identified and used in treatments of glutamate abnormalities and prostate diseases.

15 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to thio derivatives that inhibit NAALADase enzyme activity, pharmaceutical compositions comprising such derivatives, and methods of using such derivatives to inhibit NAALADase activity, to  
20 treat a glutamate abnormality and to treat a prostate disease in an animal.

Specifically, the present invention relates to a compound of formula I:

25

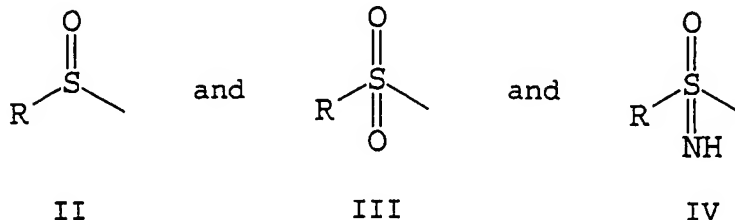


I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof,  
wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of

5



10

Y is  $CR_1R_2$ ,  $NR_3$  or O;

15

R,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  straight or branched chain alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  straight or branched chain alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_7$  cycloalkenyl and Ar, wherein said R,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are independently unsubstituted or substituted with  $C_3$ - $C_8$  cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_7$  cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  straight or branched chain alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  straight or branched chain alkenyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkoxy,  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar or mixtures thereof; and

20

Ar is selected from the group consisting of 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-indolyl, 3-indolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said Ar having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro,

25

trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino and mixtures thereof.

5           The present invention also relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(i) a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of formula I; and

(ii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10           Preferably, the compound of formula I is present in an amount that is effective for inhibiting NAALADase enzyme activity, treating a glutamate abnormality or treating a prostate disease in an animal.

15           The present invention further relates to a method of inhibiting NAALADase enzyme activity in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula I to said animal.

20           Additionally, the present invention relates to method of treating a glutamate abnormality in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula I to said animal.

25           Finally, the present invention relates to a method of treating a prostate disease in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula I to said animal.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a bar graph plotting *in vitro* toxicity of ischemic insult (potassium cyanide and 2-deoxyglucose) against various doses of 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid with which cortical cell cultures were treated.

FIG. 2 is a bar graph plotting *in vitro* toxicity against various doses of NAAG to which cortical cell cultures were exposed.

FIG. 3 is a bar graph plotting *in vitro* toxicity following treatment with 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid, against various doses of NAAG to which cortical cell cultures were exposed.

FIG. 4 is a bar graph plotting *in vitro* toxicity of ischemic insult against various times at which 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid is administered to cortical cell cultures.

FIG. 5 is a bar graph plotting *in vivo* cortical injury volume against various doses of 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid with which rats were treated following middle cerebral artery occlusion.

FIG. 6 is a bar graph plotting *in vitro* cancer cell growth against various doses of quisqualic acid with which LNCAP cells were treated.

FIG. 7 is a bar graph plotting in vitro cancer cell growth against various doses of 2-(phosphonomethyl)-pentanedioic acid with which LNCAP cells were treated.

5

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

### Definitions

"Compound 3" refers to 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid, a NAALADase inhibitor.

10 "Glutamate abnormality" refers to any disease, disorder or condition in which glutamate is implicated, and includes without limitation epilepsy, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's Disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Huntington's Disease, schizophrenia, chronic pain, ischemia and neuronal  
15 insult.

"Glutamate modulator" refers to any composition of matter which alone or in combination with another agent affects the level of glutamate in an animal.

20 "Inhibition", in the context of enzymes, refers to reversible enzyme inhibition such as competitive, uncompetitive and non-competitive inhibition. Competitive, uncompetitive and non-competitive inhibition can be distinguished by the effects of an inhibitor on the reaction kinetics of an enzyme. Competitive  
25 inhibition occurs when the inhibitor combines reversibly with the enzyme in such a way that it competes with a

normal substrate for binding at the active site. The affinity between the inhibitor and the enzyme may be measured by the inhibitor constant,  $K_i$ , which is defined as:

5

$$K_i = \frac{[E][I]}{[EI]}$$

10 wherein [E] is the concentration of the enzyme, [I] is the concentration of the inhibitor, and [EI] is the concentration of the enzyme-inhibitor complex formed by the reaction of the enzyme with the inhibitor. Unless otherwise specified,  $K_i$  as used herein refers to the  
15 affinity between the inventive compounds and NAALADase. "IC50" is a related term used to define the concentration or amount of a compound which is required to cause a 50% inhibition of the target enzyme.

"Ischemia" refers to localized tissue anemia due to  
20 obstruction of the inflow of arterial blood. Global ischemia occurs when blood flow to the entire brain ceases for a period of time, such as may result from cardiac arrest. Focal ischemia occurs when a portion of the brain is deprived of its normal blood supply, such as  
25 may result from thromboembolytic occlusion of a cerebral vessel, traumatic head injury, edema or brain tumor. Even if transient, both global and focal ischemia can

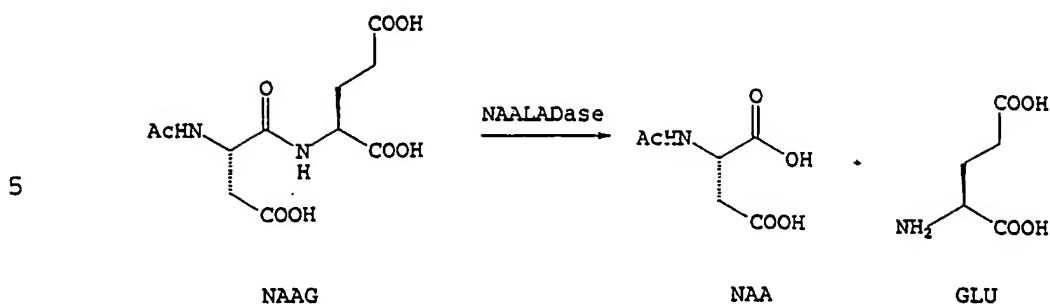


produce widespread neuronal damage. Although nerve tissue damage occurs over hours or even days following the onset of ischemia, some permanent nerve tissue damage may develop in the initial minutes following cessation of blood flow to the brain. Much of this damage is attributed to glutamate toxicity and secondary consequences of reperfusion of the tissue, such as the release of vasoactive products by damaged endothelium, and the release of cytotoxic products, such as free radicals and leukotrienes, by the damaged tissue.

"NAAG" refers to N-acetyl-aspartyl-glutamate, an important peptide component of the brain, with levels comparable to the major inhibitor neurotransmitter gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA). NAAG is neuron-specific, present in synaptic vesicles and released upon neuronal stimulation in several systems presumed to be glutamatergic. Studies suggest that NAAG may function as a neurotransmitter and/or neuromodulator in the central nervous system, or as a precursor of the neurotransmitter glutamate.

"NAALADase" refers to N-acetylated  $\alpha$ -linked acidic dipeptidase, a membrane-bound metallopeptidase which catabolizes NAAG to N-acetylaspartate (NAA) and glutamate:

## Catabolism of NAAG by NAALADase



10 NAALADase shows a high affinity for NAAG with a  $K_m$  of 540 nM. If NAAG is a bioactive peptide, then NAALADase may serve to inactivate NAAG'S synaptic action. Alternatively, if NAAG functions as a precursor for glutamate, the primary function of NAALADase may be to regulate synaptic glutamate availability.

15 "Nervous function" refers to the various functions of the nervous system, which among other things provide an awareness of the internal and external environments of the body, make possible voluntary and reflex activities between the various structural elements of the organism, and balance the organism's response to environmental changes.

20 "Nervous insult" refers to any damage to nervous tissue and any disability or death resulting therefrom. The cause of nervous insult may be metabolic, toxic, neurotoxic, iatrogenic, thermal or chemical, and includes without limitation ischemia, hypoxia, cerebrovascular

25

accident, trauma, surgery, pressure, mass effect, hemorrhage, radiation, vasospasm, neurodegenerative disease, neurodegenerative process, infection, Parkinson's disease, ALS, myelination/demyelination  
5 process, epilepsy, cognitive disorder, glutamate abnormality and secondary effects thereof. Currently, there is no known effective treatment for nervous tissue damage.

"Nervous tissue" refers to the various components  
10 that make up the nervous system, including without limitation neurons, neural support cells, glia, Schwann cells, vasculature contained within and supplying these structures, the central nervous system, the brain, the brain stem, the spinal cord, the junction of the central  
15 nervous system with the peripheral nervous system, the peripheral nervous system and allied structures.

"Neuroprotective" refers to the effect of reducing, arresting or ameliorating nervous insult, and protecting, resuscitating or reviving nervous tissue which has  
20 suffered nervous insult.

"Pharmaceutically acceptable salt" refers to a salt of the inventive compounds which possesses the desired pharmacological activity and which is neither biologically nor otherwise undesirable. The salt can be  
25 formed with inorganic acids such as acetate, adipate, alginate, aspartate, benzoate, benzenesulfonate,

bisulfate butyrate, citrate, camphorate, camphorsulfonate, cyclopentanepropionate, digluconate, dodecylsulfate, ethanesulfonate, fumarate, glucoheptanoate, glycerophosphate, hemisulfate  
5 heptanoate, hexanoate, hydrochloride hydrobromide, hydroiodide, 2-hydroxyethanesulfonate, lactate, maleate, methanesulfonate, 2-naphthalenesulfonate, nicotinate, oxalate, thiocyanate, tosylate and undecanoate. Examples of a base salt include ammonium salts, alkali metal salts  
10 such as sodium and potassium salts, alkaline earth metal salts such as calcium and magnesium salts, salts with organic bases such as dicyclohexylamine salts, N-methyl-D-glucamine, and salts with amino acids such as arginine and lysine. The basic nitrogen-containing groups can be  
15 quarternized with agents including lower alkyl halides such as methyl, ethyl, propyl and butyl chlorides, bromides and iodides; dialkyl sulfates such as dimethyl, diethyl, dibutyl and diamyl sulfates; long chain halides such as decyl, lauryl, myristyl and stearyl chlorides,  
20 bromides and iodides; and aralkyl halides such as benzyl and phenethyl bromides.

"Prostate disease" refers to any disease, disorder or condition of the prostate, including prostate cancer, such as adenocarcinoma or metastatic cancers, and  
25 conditions characterized by abnormal growth of prostatic epithelial cells, such as benign prostatic hyperplasia.

"PSA" refers to Prostate Specific Antigen, a well known prostate cancer marker. It is a protein produced by prostate cells and is frequently present at elevated levels in the blood of men with prostate cancer. PSA correlates with tumor burden, serves as an indicator of metastatic involvement, and provides a parameter for following a prostate cancer patient's response to surgery, irradiation and androgen replacement therapy.

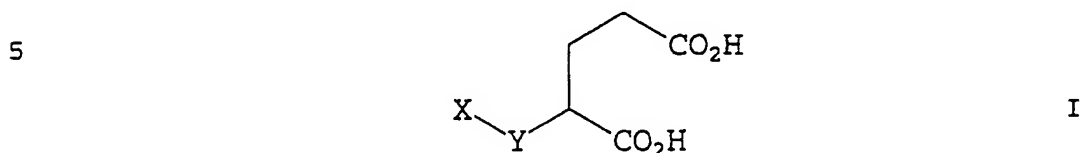
"PSMA" refers to Prostate Specific Membrane Antigen, a potential prostate carcinoma marker that has been hypothesized to serve as a target for imaging and cytotoxic treatment modalities for prostate cancer. PSMA is expressed in prostatic ductal epithelium and is present in seminal plasma, prostatic fluid and urine. It has been found that the expression of PSMA cDNA confers the activity of NAALADase.

"Treatment" refers to:

- (i) preventing a disease, disorder or condition from occurring in an animal which may be predisposed to the disease, disorder and/or condition but has not yet been diagnosed as having it;
- (ii) inhibiting the disease, disorder or condition, i.e., arresting its development; and
- (iii) relieving the disease, disorder or condition, i.e., causing regression of the disease, disorder and/or condition.

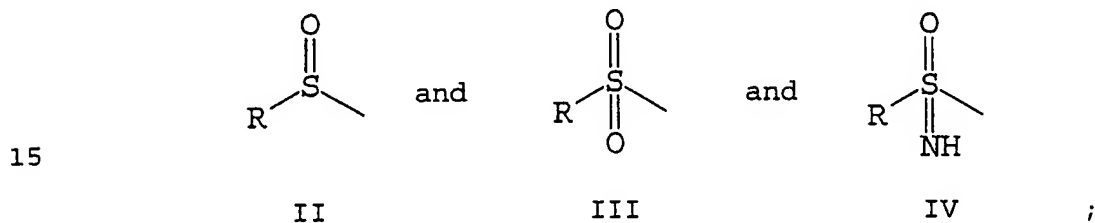
COMPOUNDS OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

The present invention relates to a compound of formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof,  
10 wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of



Y is CR<sub>1</sub>R<sub>2</sub>, NR<sub>3</sub> or O;

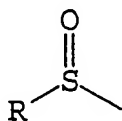
R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are independently selected from the  
20 group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> straight or branched  
chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-  
C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkenyl and Ar, wherein said R,  
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are independently unsubstituted or  
substituted with C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkenyl,  
25 halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> straight or  
branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> straight or branched chain

alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar or mixtures thereof; and

Ar is selected from the group consisting of 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-indolyl, 3-indolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said Ar having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino and mixtures thereof.

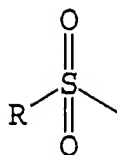
In a preferred embodiment, at least one of said R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> is/are independently substituted with C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, hydroxy, halo, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar or mixtures thereof.

In another preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and X is



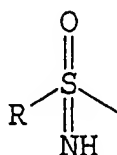
II

In another preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and X is



III

5 In a further preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and X is



IV

10 In a more preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of

15 hydrogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

20 In the most preferred embodiment, the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(methylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(ethylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

25 2-[(propylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(butylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

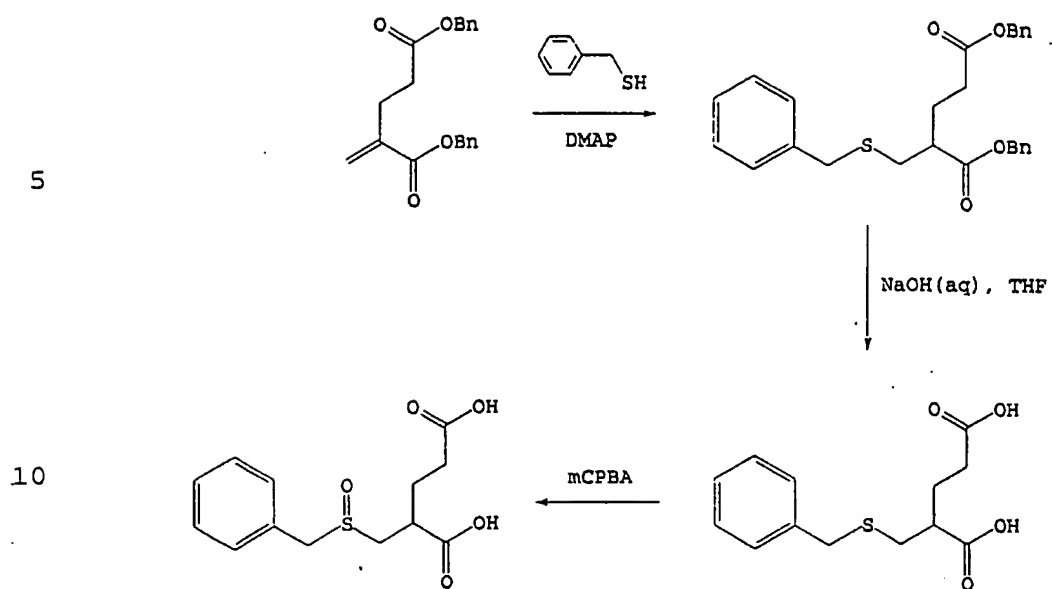


- 2-[(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
5 2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(sulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
10 2-[(butylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
15 2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
20 2-[(butylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
25 2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

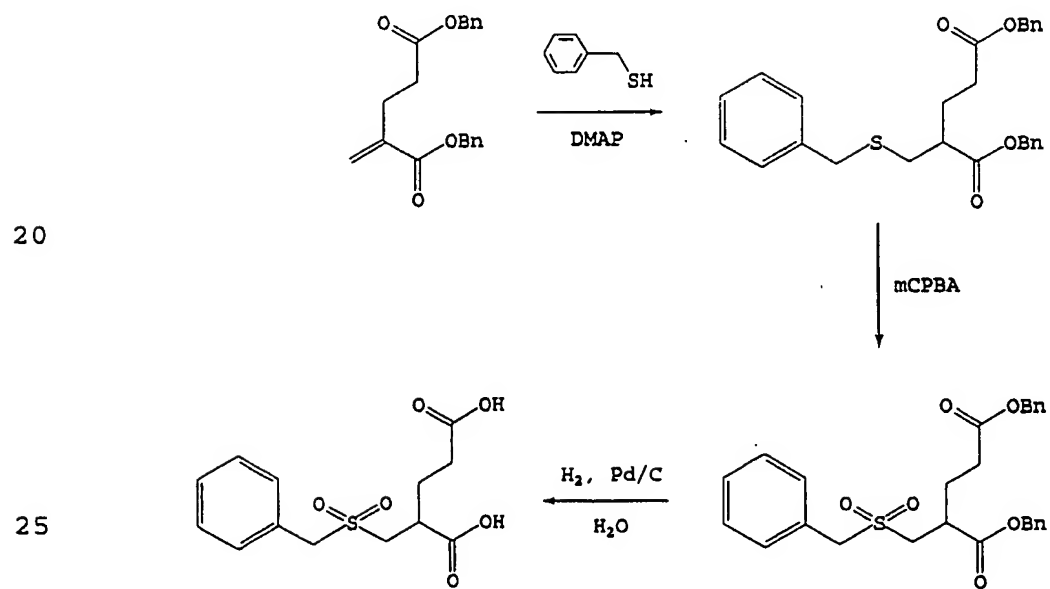
## SYNTHESIS OF COMPOUNDS

The compounds of the present invention can be readily prepared by standard techniques of organic chemistry, utilizing the general synthetic pathways depicted below (see Schemes I, II and III). Precursor  
5 compounds may be prepared by methods known in the art.

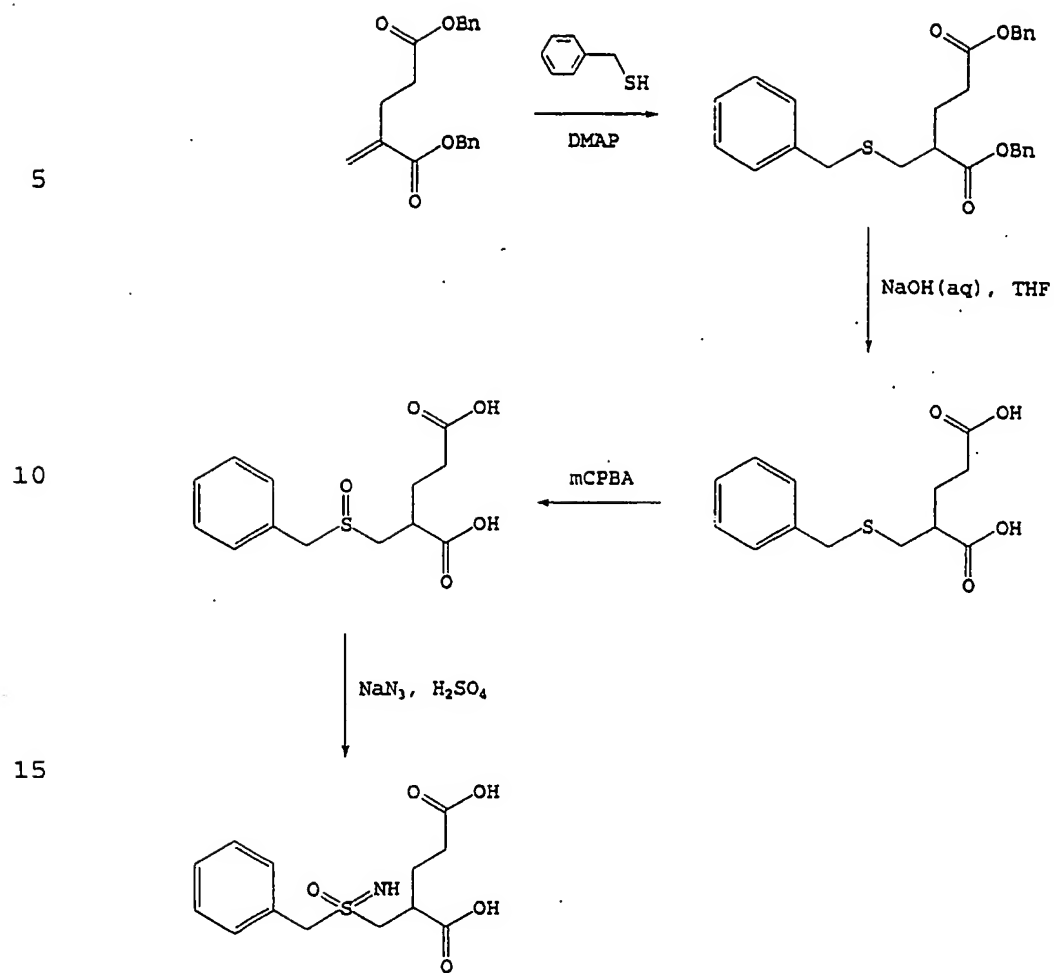
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Scheme I

15

Scheme II

22

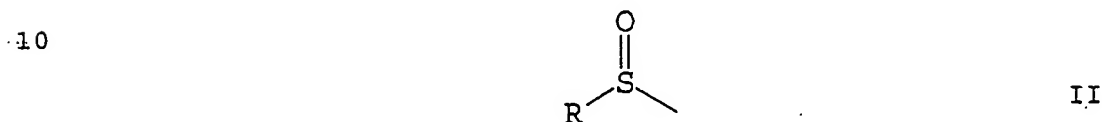
Scheme IIIPHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

The present invention also relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

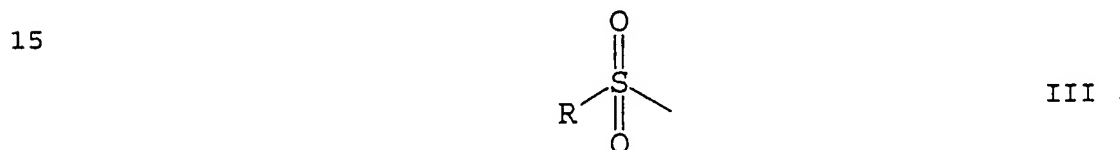
- (i) a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of formula I; and
- (ii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

In a preferred embodiment, at least one of said R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> is/are independently substituted with C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, hydroxy, halo, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar or mixtures thereof.

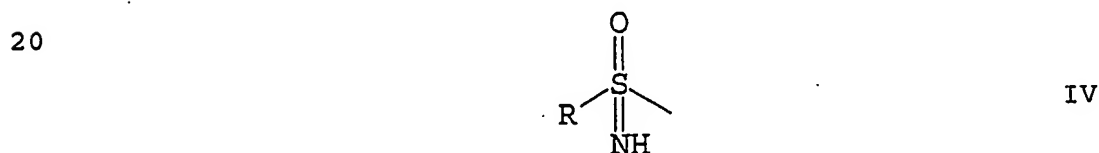
In another preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and X is



In another preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and X is



In a further preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and X is



In a more preferred embodiment, Y is CH<sub>2</sub> and R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s)

25

independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

In the most preferred embodiment, the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

- 2-[(sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 10 2-[(methylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(ethylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(propylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(butylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 15 2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(sulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 20 2-[(methylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(ethylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(propylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(butylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(phenylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 25 2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfonyl] methyl] pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
5 2-[(ethylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfoximinyl] methyl] pentanedioic acid;  
10 2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfoximinyl] methyl] pentanedioic  
acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfoximinyl] methyl] pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

In another preferred embodiment, the pharmaceutical  
15 composition further comprises a therapeutic agent  
selected from the group consisting of therapeutic  
hormones, chemotherapeutic agents, monoclonal antibodies,  
anti-angiogenesis agents, radiolabelled compounds,  
antineoplastic agents and mixtures thereof. Examples of  
20 therapeutic hormones include diethylstilbestrol (DES),  
leuprolide, flutamide, cyproterone acetate, ketoconazole  
and amino glutethimide are preferred. Examples of  
antineoplastic agents include 5-fluorouracil, vinblastine  
sulfate, estramustine phosphate, suramin and strontium-  
25 89. Examples of chemotherapeutic agents include  
buserelin, chlorotranisene, chromic phosphate, cisplatin,

cyclophosphamide, dexamethasone, doxorubicin, estradiol, estradiol valerate, estrogens conjugated and esterified, estrone, ethinyl estradiol, floxuridine, goserelin, hydroxyurea, melphalan, methotrexate, mitomycin and prednisone.

In a further preferred embodiment, the compound of formula I is present in an amount that is effective for inhibiting NAALADase activity in an animal, treating a glutamate abnormality in an animal or treating a prostate disease in an animal.

#### METHODS OF USE OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

##### METHOD OF INHIBITING NAALADASE ENZYME ACTIVITY

The present invention further relates to a method of inhibiting NAALADase enzyme activity in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula I to said animal.

##### METHOD OF TREATING A GLUTAMATE ABNORMALITY

Although not limited to any one particular theory, it is believed that the compounds of the present invention modulate levels of glutamate by acting on a storage form of glutamate which is hypothesized to be upstream from the effects mediated by the NMDA receptor.



Accordingly, the present invention additionally relates to a method of treating a glutamate abnormality in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula I to said animal.

5           In a preferred embodiment, said glutamate abnormality is selected from the group consisting of epilepsy, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's Disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Huntington's Disease, disease, schizophrenia, chronic  
10           pain, ischemia and neuronal insult.

          In a more preferred embodiment, said glutamate abnormality is ischemia.

#### METHOD OF TREATING A PROSTATE DISEASE

15           The present invention also relates to a method of treating a prostate disease in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of formula I to said animal.

          In a preferred embodiment, said prostate disease is  
20           prostate cancer or benign prostatic hyperplasia.

#### METHOD OF TREATING CANCER

          In addition to prostate cancer, other forms of cancer that may be treated with the compounds of the  
25           present invention include without limitation: ACTH-producing tumors, acute lymphocytic leukemia, acute

nonlymphocytic leukemia, cancer of the adrenal cortex, bladder cancer, brain cancer, breast cancer, cervix cancer, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, chronic myelocytic leukemia, colorectal cancer, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, endometrial cancer, esophageal cancer, Ewing's sarcoma, gallbladder cancer, hairy cell leukemia, head & neck cancer, Hodgkin's lymphoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, kidney cancer, liver cancer, lung cancer (small and/or non-small cell), malignant peritoneal effusion, malignant pleural effusion, melanoma, mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, neuroblastoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, osteosarcoma, ovary cancer, ovary (germ cell) cancer, pancreatic cancer, penis cancer, retinoblastoma, skin cancer, soft-tissue sarcoma, squamous cell carcinomas, stomach cancer, testicular cancer, thyroid cancer, trophoblastic neoplasms, cancer of the uterus, vaginal cancer, cancer of the vulva and Wilm's tumor.

The compounds of the present invention are particularly useful in treating cancer of tissues where NAALADase enzymes reside. Such tissues include the prostate as well as the brain, kidney and testis.

#### ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

In the methods of the present invention, the compounds may be administered orally, parenterally, by inhalation spray, topically, rectally, nasally, buccally,

vaginally or via an implanted reservoir in dosage formulations containing conventional non-toxic pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers, adjuvants and vehicles. The term parenteral as used herein includes  
5 subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intrathecal, intraventricular, intrasternal or intracranial injection and infusion techniques. Invasive techniques are preferred, particularly direct administration to damaged neuronal  
10 tissue.

To be effective therapeutically as central nervous system targets, the compounds of the present invention should readily penetrate the blood-brain barrier when peripherally administered. Compounds which cannot  
15 penetrate the blood-brain barrier can be effectively administered by an intraventricular route.

The compounds may also be administered in the form of sterile injectable preparations, for example, as sterile injectable aqueous or oleaginous suspensions.  
20 These suspensions can be formulated according to techniques known in the art using suitable dispersing or wetting agents and suspending agents. The sterile injectable preparations may also be sterile injectable solutions or suspensions in non-toxic parenterally-  
25 acceptable diluents or solvents, for example, as solutions in 1,3-butanediol. Among the acceptable

vehicles and solvents that may be employed are water, Ringer's solution and isotonic sodium chloride solution. In addition, sterile fixed oils are conventionally employed as solvents or suspending mediums. For this purpose, any bland fixed oil such as a synthetic mono- or di-glyceride may be employed. Fatty acids such as oleic acid and its glyceride derivatives, including olive oil and castor oil, especially in their polyoxyethylated forms, are useful in the preparation of injectables. These oil solutions or suspensions may also contain long-chain alcohol diluents or dispersants.

Additionally, the compounds may be administered orally in the form of capsules, tablets, aqueous suspensions or solutions. Tablets may contain carriers such as lactose and corn starch, and/or lubricating agents such as magnesium stearate. Capsules may contain diluents including lactose and dried corn starch. Aqueous suspensions may contain emulsifying and suspending agents combined with the active ingredient. The oral dosage forms may further contain sweetening and/or flavoring and/or coloring agents.

The compounds may further be administered rectally in the form of suppositories. These compositions can be prepared by mixing the drug with suitable non-irritating excipients which are solid at room temperature, but liquid at rectal temperature such that they will melt in

the rectum to release the drug. Such excipients include cocoa butter, beeswax and polyethylene glycols.

Moreover, the compounds may be administered topically, especially when the conditions addressed for treatment involve areas or organs readily accessible by topical application, including neurological disorders of the eye, the skin or the lower intestinal tract.

For topical application to the eye, or ophthalmic use, the compounds can be formulated as micronized suspensions in isotonic, pH adjusted sterile saline or, preferably, as a solution in isotonic, pH adjusted sterile saline, either with or without a preservative such as benzylalkonium chloride. Alternatively, the compounds may be formulated into ointments, such as petrolatum.

For topical application to the skin, the compounds can be formulated into suitable ointments containing the compounds suspended or dissolved in, for example, mixtures with one or more of the following: mineral oil, liquid petrolatum, white petrolatum, propylene glycol, polyoxyethylene polyoxypropylene compound, emulsifying wax and water. Alternatively, the compounds can be formulated into suitable lotions or creams containing the active compound suspended or dissolved in, for example, a mixture of one or more of the following: mineral oil, sorbitan monostearate, polysorbate 60, cetyl ester wax,

cetearyl alcohol, 2-octyldodecanol, benzyl alcohol and water.

Topical application to the lower intestinal tract can be effected in rectal suppository formulations (see  
5 above) or in suitable enema formulations.

The compounds of the present invention may be administered by a single dose, multiple discrete doses or continuous infusion. Since the compounds are small, easily diffusible and relatively stable, they are well  
10 suited to continuous infusion. Pump means, particularly subcutaneous pump means, are preferred for continuous infusion.

#### DOSAGE

15 Dose levels on the order of about 0.1 mg to about 10,000 mg of the active ingredient compound are useful in the treatment of the above conditions, with preferred levels being about 0.1 mg to about 1,000 mg. The specific dose level for any particular patient will vary  
20 depending upon a variety of factors, including the activity of the specific compound employed; the age, body weight, general health, sex and diet of the patient; the time of administration; the rate of excretion; drug combination; the severity of the particular disease being  
25 treated; and the form of administration. Typically, in vitro dosage-effect results provide useful guidance on

the proper doses for patient administration. Studies in animal models are also helpful, particularly in determining effective doses for treating cancer. The considerations for determining the proper dose levels are well known in the art.

In a preferred embodiment, the compounds of the present invention are administered in lyophilized form. In this case, 1 to 100 mg of a compound of the present invention may be lyophilized in individual vials, together with a carrier and a buffer, such as mannitol and sodium phosphate. The compound may be reconstituted in the vials with bacteriostatic water before administration.

In treating global ischemia, the compounds of the present invention are preferably administered orally, rectally, parenterally or topically at least 1 to 6 times daily, and may follow an initial bolus dose of higher concentration.

As previously mentioned, the compounds of the present invention may be administered in combination with one or more therapeutic agents, including chemotherapeutic agents. TABLE I provides known median dosages for selected chemotherapeutic agents. Specific dose levels for these agents will depend upon considerations such as those identified above for the compounds of the present invention.

TABLE I

	CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT	MEDIAN DOSAGE
	Asparaginase	10,000 units
	Bleomycin Sulfate	15 units
5	Carboplatin	50-450 mg
	Carmustine	100 mg
	Cisplatin	10-50 mg
	Cladribine	10 mg
10	Cyclophosphamide (lyophilized)	100 mg-2 gm
	Cyclophosphamide (non-lyophilized)	100 mg-2 gm
	Cytarabine (lyophilized powder)	100 mg-2 gm
15	Dacarbazine	100 mg-200 mg
	Dactinomycin	0.5 mg
	Daunorubicin	20 mg
	Diethylstilbestrol	250 mg
	Doxorubicin	10-150 mg
20	Etidronate	300 mg
	Etoposide	100 mg
	Floxuridine	500 mg
	Fludarabine Phosphate	50 mg
	Fluorouracil	500 mg-5 gm
25	Goserelin	3.6 mg
	Granisetron Hydrochloride	1 mg
	Idarubicin	5-10 mg
	Ifosfamide	1-3 gm
	Leucovorin Calcium	50-350 mg
30	Leuprolide	3.75-7.5 mg
	Mechlorethamine	10 mg



	CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT	MEDIAN DOSAGE
	Medroxyprogesterone	1 gm
	Melphalan	50 gm
	Methotrexate	20 mg-1 gm
	Mitomycin	5-40 mg
5	Mitoxantrone	20-30 mg
	Ondansetron Hydrochloride	40 mg
	Paclitaxel	30 mg
	Pamidronate Disodium	30-*90 mg
	Pegaspargase	750 units
10	Plicamycin	2,500 mcgm
	Streptozocin	1 gm
	Thiotepa	15 mg
	Teniposide	50 mg
	Vinblastine	10 mg
15	Vincristine	1-5 mg
	Aldesleukin	22 million units
	Epoetin Alfa	2,000-10,000 units
	Filgrastim	300-480 mcgm
	Immune Globulin	500 mg-10 gm
20	Interferon Alpha-2a	3-36 million units
	Interferon Alpha-2b	3-50 million units
	Levamisole	50 mg
	Octreotide	1,000-5,000 mcgm
25	Sargramostim	250-500 mcgm

#### ADMINISTRATION REGIMEN

For the methods of the present invention, any administration regimen regulating the timing and sequence

of drug delivery can be used and repeated as necessary to effect treatment. Such regimen may include pretreatment and/or co-administration with additional therapeutic agents.

5     a.   Administration for Nervous Insult

          To maximize protection of nervous tissue from nervous insult, the compounds of the present invention should be administered to the affected cells as soon as possible. In situations where nervous insult is  
10     anticipated, the compounds should be administered before the expected nervous insult. Such situations of increased likelihood of nervous insult include surgery (cartoid endarterectomy, cardiac, vascular, aortic, orthopedic); endovascular procedures such as arterial  
15     catherization (cartoid, vertebral, aortic, cardia, renal, spinal, Adamkiewicz); injections of embolic agents; coils or balloons for hemostasis; interruptions of vascularity for treatment of brain lesions; and predisposing medical  
20     conditions such as crescendo transient ischemic attacks, emboli and sequential strokes. Where pretreatment for stroke or ischemia is impossible or impracticable, it is important to get the compounds of the present invention to the affected cells as soon as possible during or after the event. In the time period between strokes, diagnosis  
25     and treatment procedures should be minimized to save the cells from further damage and death.

b. Administration for Prostate Disease

For patients with prostate cancer that is neither advanced nor metastatic, the compounds of the present invention may be administered (i) prior to surgery or radiation treatment to reduce the risk of metastasis; (ii) during surgery or in conjunction with radiation treatment; and/or (iii) after surgery or radiation therapy to reduce the risk of recurrence and to inhibit the growth of any residual tumorous cells.

For patients with advanced or metastatic prostate cancer, the compounds of the present invention may be administered as a continuous supplement to, or as a replacement for, hormonal ablation in order to slow tumor cell growth in both the untreated primary tumor and the existing metastatic lesions.

The methods of the present invention are particularly useful where shed cells could not be removed by surgical intervention. After post-surgical recovery, the methods of the present invention would be effective in reducing the chances of recurrence of a tumor engendered by such shed cells.

COMBINATION WITH OTHER TREATMENTS

a. Nervous Insult

In methods of treating nervous insult (particularly acute ischemic stroke and global ischemia caused by

drowning and head trauma), the compounds of the present invention can be co-administered with one or more therapeutic agents, preferably agents which can reduce the risk of stroke (such as aspirin), and more preferably agents which can reduce the risk of a second ischemic event (such as ticlopidine).

The compounds of the present invention can be co-administered with one or more therapeutic agents either (i) together in a single formulation, or (ii) separately in individual formulations designed for optimal release rates of their respective active agent. Each formulation may contain from about 0.01% to about 99.99% by weight, preferably from about 3.5% to about 60% by weight, of a compound of the present invention, as well as one or more pharmaceutical excipients, such as wetting, emulsifying and pH buffering agents.

**b. Prostate Disease**

**(i) Surgery and Radiation Treatment**

In general, surgery and radiation treatment are employed as potentially curative therapies for patients with localized prostate cancer who are under 70 years of age and are expected to live at least 10 more years.

Approximately 70% of newly diagnosed prostate cancer patients fall into this category. Approximately 90% of these patients (65% of total patients) undergo surgery, while approximately 10% of these patients (7% of total

patients) undergo radiation treatment.

Histopathological examination of surgical specimens reveals that approximately 63% of patients undergoing surgery (40% of total patients) have locally extensive tumors or regional (lymph node) metastasis that was undetected at initial diagnosis. These patients are at a significantly greater risk of recurrence. Approximately 40% of these patients will actually develop recurrence within five years after surgery. Results after radiation treatment are even less encouraging. Approximately 80% of patients who have undergone radiation treatment as their primary therapy have disease persistence or develop recurrence or metastasis within five years after treatment.

Currently, most prostate cancer patients undergoing surgery and radiation treatment do not receive any immediate follow-up therapy. Rather, they are monitored frequently for elevated Prostate Specific Antigen ("PSA"), which is the primary indicator of recurrence or metastasis.

Based on the above statistics, there is considerable opportunity to use the present invention in conjunction with surgery and/or radiation treatment.

(ii) Hormonal Therapy

Hormonal ablation is the most effective palliative treatment for the 10% of patients with metastatic

prostate cancer. Hormonal ablation by medication and/or orchiectomy is used to block hormones that promote further growth and metastasis of prostate cancer. With time, both the primary and metastatic tumors of virtually all of these patients become hormone-independent and resistant to therapy. Approximately 50% of patients with metastatic cancer die within three years after initial diagnosis, and 75% of such patients die within five years after diagnosis. Continuous supplementation with the compounds of the present invention may be used to prevent or reverse this potentially metastasis-permissive state.

#### (iii) Chemotherapy

While chemotherapy has been successful in treating some forms of cancer, it has shown slight therapeutic value in treating prostate cancer where it is generally reserved as a last resort. Accordingly, the opportunity to treat prostate cancer by combining chemotherapy with the methods of the present invention will be rare. When combined, however, such treatments should be more effective than chemotherapy alone in controlling prostate cancer.

#### (iv) Immunotherapy

The compounds of the present invention may also be used in combination with monoclonal antibodies to treat prostate cancer. Such combined treatment is particularly effective for patients with pelvic lymph node

involvement, of which only 34% survive after 5 years. An example of such monoclonal antibodies is cell membrane-specific anti-prostate antibody.

5 The present invention may also be used with immunotherapies based on polyclonal or monoclonal antibody-derived reagents. Monoclonal antibody-derived reagents are preferred. These reagents are well known in the art, and include radiolabelled monoclonal antibodies such as monoclonal antibodies conjugated with strontium-  
10 89.

#### (v) Cryotherapy

The methods of the present invention may also be used in conjunction with cryotherapy for treatment of prostate cancer.

15

#### STUDIES OF RELATED COMPOUNDS

The following experimental studies of related compounds provide strong evidence that the compounds of the present invention are non-toxic and are effective in  
20 inhibiting NAALADase activity, treating glutamate abnormalities and treating prostate diseases.

#### In Vivo Toxicity of NAALADase Inhibitors

To examine the toxicological effect of NAALADase  
25 inhibition in vivo, a group of mice were injected with 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid, a NAALADase inhibitor

of high activity, in doses of 1, 5, 10, 30, 100, 300 and 500 mg/kg body weight. The mice were subsequently observed two times per day for 5 consecutive days. The survival rate at each dose level is provided in TABLE II below. The results show that the NAALADase inhibitor is non-toxic to mice, suggesting that the compounds of the present invention would be similarly non-toxic to humans when administered at therapeutically effective amounts.

10

TABLE II

15

TOXICOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF NAALADASE INHIBITORS							
Dose (mg/kg)	1	5	10	30	100	300	500
Survival Rate After 5 days (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	66.7

In Vitro Assay of NAALADase Activity

20

The following three compounds were tested for in vitro inhibition of NAALADase activity: 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid, 2-(phosphonomethyl)succinic acid, and 2-[[2-carboxyethyl)hydroxyphosphinol)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

25

The results are provided in Table III below.



TABLE IIIIN VITRO ACTIVITY OF NAALADASE INHIBITORS

Compound	$K_i$ (nM)
2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid	$0.275 \pm 0.08$
2-(phosphonomethyl)succinic acid	$700.00 \pm 67.3$
2-[[2-carboxyethyl)hydroxyphosphinol]- methyl]pentanedioic acid)	$1.89 \pm 0.19$

The results show that 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid exhibits high NAALADase inhibiting activity, with a  $K_i$  of 0.27 nM. The activity of this compound is over 1000 times greater than that of previously described NAALADase inhibitors. Since 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid is similar in structure to the compounds of the present invention, the results suggest that the compounds of the present invention would also be potent NAALADase inhibitors.

By comparison, 2-(phosphonomethyl)succinic acid exhibits much lower NAALADase inhibiting activity, suggesting that a glutamate analog attached to the phosphonic acid contributes to its NAALADase inhibiting activity.

The results also show that 2-[[2-carboxyethyl)-hydroxyphosphinol)methyl]pentanedioic acid, which has an additional carboxylic acid side chain similar to the aspartate residue found in NAAG, exhibits a lower  
5 NAALADase inhibiting activity than 2-(phosphonomethyl)-pentanedioic acid.

#### Protocol for In Vitro Assay of NAALADase Activity

The amount of [<sup>3</sup>H]Glu liberated from [<sup>3</sup>H]NAAG in 50  
10 mM Tris-Cl buffer was measured for 15 minutes at 37° C using 30-50 µg of synaptosomal protein. Substrate and product were resolved by anion-exchange liquid chromatography. Duplicate assays were performed so that no more than 20% of the NAAG was digested, representing  
15 the linear range of peptidase activity. Quisqualate (100 µM) was included in parallel assay tubes to confirm the specificity of the measurements.

#### In Vitro Assay of NAALADase Inhibitors on Ischemia

20 To examine the effect of NAALADase inhibitors on *in vitro* ischemic toxicity, cortical cell cultures were treated with 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid (in concentrations ranging from 100 pM to 1µM) during an ischemic insult and for one hour thereafter. The  
25 toxicity measurement for each concentration of the NAALADase inhibitor is provided in TABLE IV below and

graphically represented in FIG. 1.

TABLE IV

	<u>Dose</u>	<u>% Toxicity</u>
5	Control	100.00 $\pm$ 9.0 (n=5)
	100 pM	66.57 $\pm$ 4.38 (n=5)
	1 nM	42.31 $\pm$ 9.34 (n=5)
	10 nM	33.08 $\pm$ 9.62 (n=5)
	100 nM	30.23 $\pm$ 9.43 (n=5)
10	1 $\mu$ M	8.56 $\pm$ 8.22 (n=5)

The results show that toxicity decreased as the concentration of the NAALADase inhibitor increased, suggesting that the compounds of the present invention would be effective in treating ischemia or neuronal damage caused by ischemia.

The methods for this assay are described in detail below. Specifically, cell cultures were exposed to potassium cyanide and 2-deoxyglucose (2-DG) (10 mM) and analyzed for release of lactate dehydrogenase (LDH).

In Vitro Toxicity of NAAG

To examine the effect of NAAG on in vitro toxicity, cortical cell cultures were treated with NAAG (in concentrations ranging from 3  $\mu$ M to 3 mM) for 20 minutes. The toxicity measurement for each concentration of NAAG

is provided in TABLE V below and graphically represented in FIG. 2.

TABLE V

5	<u>Dose of NAAG</u>	<u>% Toxicity</u>
	3 $\mu$ M	3.51 (n=1)
	10 $\mu$ M	4.30 $\pm$ 3.12 (n=3)
	30 $\mu$ M	11.40 $\pm$ 6.17 (n=3)
	100 $\mu$ M	12.66 $\pm$ 5.50 (n=3)
10	300 $\mu$ M	13.50 $\pm$ 4.0 (n=3)
	1 mM	21.46 $\pm$ 4.20 (n=3)
	3 mM	45.11 $\pm$ 4.96 (n=3)

The results show that toxicity increased as the concentration of NAAG increased. The toxicity is attributed to the release of glutamate by NAAG when cleaved by NAALADase.

In Vitro Toxicity of NAAG following Treatment with  
NAALADase Inhibitors

To examine the effect of NAALADase inhibitors on *in vitro* glutamate toxicity, cortical cell cultures were treated with 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid (1  $\mu$ M) during exposure to NAAG and for one hour thereafter. The toxicity measurement for each concentration of NAAG is provided in TABLE VI below and graphically represented in

FIG. 3.

TABLE VI

	<u>Dose of NAAG</u>	<u>% Toxicity</u>
5	3 $\mu$ M	-4.71 (n=1)
	10 $\mu$ M	-3.08 $\pm$ 0.81 (n=3)
	30 $\mu$ M	-4.81 $\pm$ 1.13 (n=3)
	100 $\mu$ M	-2.87 $\pm$ 0.78 (n=3)
	300 $\mu$ M	-2.09 $\pm$ 0.48 (n=3)
10	1 mM	0.26 $\pm$ 1.11 (n=3)
	3 mM	16.83 $\pm$ 8.76 (n=3)

When compared to the results of FIG.2/TABLE V, the results of FIG.3/TABLE VI show that toxicity decreased considerably after treatment with the NAALADase inhibitor, suggesting that the compounds of the present invention would be effective in treating glutamate abnormalities.

20 In Vitro Assay of NAALADASE Inhibitors on Ischemia --  
with Delayed Treatment

To examine the effect of NAALADase inhibitors on *in vitro* toxicity following ischemia, cortical cell cultures were treated with 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid  
 25 (i) during an ischemic insult and for one hour thereafter (exposure and recovery); (ii) for one hour following

ischemic insult (recovery only); and (iii) for one hour beginning 30 minutes after ischemic insult (delayed 30 minutes). The toxicity measurement for each time of administration is provided in TABLE VII below and graphically represented in FIG. 4.

TABLE VII

	<u>Time of Administration Relative to Ischemic Insult</u>	<u>% Toxicity</u>
10	Control	100.00%
	Exposure & Recovery	2.54%
	Recovery Only	9.03%
	Delayed 30 Minutes	31.49%

15        The results show that significant neuronal protection is achieved when NAALADase inhibitors are administered during exposure and recovery from an ischemic insult, and even after a 30 minute delay following the ischemic insult.

20

Protocol for In Vitro Toxicity Assay

a. Cell Culture

25        Dissociated cortical cell cultures are prepared using the papain-dissociation method of Heuttner and Baughman (1986) as modified by Murphy and Baraban (1990). See TABLE VIII for the Dissociated Culture Protocol as used herein. Fetuses of embryonic day 17 are removed

from timed pregnancy rats (Harlan Sprague Dawley). The cortex is rapidly dissected out in Dulbecco's phosphate-buffered saline, stripped of meninges, and incubated in a papain solution for 15 min at 37°C. The tissue is then

5 mechanically triturated and pelleted at 500g (1000-2000 rpm on swinging bucket Beckman). The pellet is resuspended in a DNAase solution, triturated with a 10 ml pipette x15-20, layered over a "10 x 10" solution containing albumin and trypsin inhibitor (see TABLE VIII

10 for an example of a "10 x 10" solution), repelleted, and resuspended in a plating medium containing 10% fetal bovine serum (HyClone A-1111-L), 5% heat-inactivated Equine serum (HyClone A-3311-L), and 84% modified Earle's basal medium (MEM) (Gibco 51200-020) with high glucose

15 (4.5 g/L), and 1 g/L NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. Each 24-well plate is pretreated with poly-D-lysine (0.5 ml/well of 10 µg/ml) for 1 h and rinsed with water before plating. Cultures are plated at  $2.5 \times 10^6$  cells/ml with each well of a 24 well plate receiving 500µl/well. Alternatively, 35mm

20 dishes can be plated at 2 ml/dish, 6 well plates at 2 ml/well, or 12 well plates at 1 ml/well. After plating, 50% of the medium is changed every 3-4 days with growth serum containing 5% heat-inactivated Equine serum (HyClone A-3311-L), 95% modified Earle's basal medium

25 (MEM) (Gibco 51200-020), and 1% L-Glutamine (Gibco 25030-081). Experiments are performed after 21 days in

cultures. Cultures are maintained in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 37°C. These methodologies are described in further detail in the TABLE VIII below.

5

TABLE VIII

DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL	
I. PREPARE SOLUTIONS	
Stocks/Solutions	
10 <u>DNAase Stock, 1 ml</u> <u>(100x)</u> 5 mg DNAase I (Worthington LS002004); 1 ml dissoc. EBSS; freeze as 50 µl 15 aliquots.	<u>Dulbecco's PBS, 500 ml</u> 4 gm NaCl (J.T. Baker 3624-01); 1.06 gm Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub> ·7H <sub>2</sub> O (Fisher S373-3); 100 mg KCl (Fisher P217-500); 100 mg KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (Sigma P-0662); 500 ml dH <sub>2</sub> O; adjust pH to 7.4 and sterile filter.



5

DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL	
<u>Dissociated EBSS, 500 ml</u> 1.1 gm $\text{NaHCO}_3$ ; 50 ml EBSS stock (Gibco 14050-025); 450 ml $\text{dH}_2\text{O}$ ; sterile filter.	<u>EDTA Stock, 10 ml</u> 184.2 mg EDTA sodium salt (Sigma ED4S); 10 ml $\text{dH}_2\text{O}$ ; sterile filter.

## DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL

10 and 10 Stock, 10 ml

100 mg BSA (Sigma A-4919);  
100 mg Trypsin Inhibitor  
from Egg White (Sigma T-2011);  
10 ml dissoc. EBSS;  
sterile filter.

Poiv-D-Lysine Stock, 5 ml

5 mg Poly-D-Lysine, 100-150K (Sigma P-6407);  
5 ml sterile water;  
keep frozen.

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DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL	
Media	
<p><u>Dissociated growth, 500 ml</u></p> <p>500 ml MEM (Gibco 51200-020) containing glucose and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2.25 gm glucose and 0.5 gm NaHCO<sub>3</sub>);</p> <p>25 ml heat-inactivated Equine Serum (HyClone A-3311-L);</p> <p>5 ml L-Glutamine (200mM, 100x stock, Gibco 25030-081);</p> <p>sterile filter.</p> <p>15 ml heat-inactivated Equine Serum (HyClone A-3311-L);</p> <p>3 ml L-Glutamine (200mM, 100x stock, Gibco 25030-081); (Gibco 15140-015);</p> <p>1 ml Penicillin-Streptomycin stock.</p>	<p><u>Plating media, 300 ml</u></p> <p>250 ml MEM containing glucose and sodium bicarbonate (2.25 gm glucose and 0.5 gm NaHCO<sub>3</sub> in 500 ml Gibco MEM 51200-020);</p> <p>30 ml Fetal Bovine Serum (HyClone A-1111-L).</p>

## DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL

## For papain dissociation:

4 mg Cysteine (C-8277);

25 ml dissoc. EBSS;

250  $\mu$ l Papain stock

(Worthington LS003126);

place in 37°C waterbath

until clear.

## For DNAase treatment:

DNAase, 5 ml

4.5 ml dissoc. EBSS;

500  $\mu$ l "10 and 10" stock;50  $\mu$ l DNAase stock."10 and 10", 5 ml

4.5 ml of EBSS;

500  $\mu$ l "10 and 10" stock.

## II. COAT DISHES

Use poly-d-lysine stock at 1:100 dilution to coat 24-well plates (0.5 ml/well) or at 1:10 dilution to coat 35 mm glass cover slips (1.0 ml/coverslip).

Leave until end of dissection.

## DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL

III. DISSECT TISSUE

---

5 Use Harlan Sprague-Dawley timed pregnancy rats,  
ordered to arrive at E-17.

Decapitate, spray abdomen down with 70% EtOH.

Remove uterus through midline incision and place in  
sterile dPBS.

10 Remove brains from embryos, leaving them in dPBS.

Brain removal: Penetrate skull and skin with fine  
forceps at lambda. Pull back to open posterior fossa.  
Then move forceps anteriorly to separate sagittal  
suture. Brain can be removed by scooping back from  
15 olfactory bulbs under the brain.

Move brains to fresh dPBS; subsequently, dissect away  
from cortex.

## DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL

## IV. PAPAIN DISSOCIATION

Transfer cortices equally to two 15 ml tubes  
containing sterile papain solution, maintained at  
37°C.

Triturate x1 with sterile 10 ml pipette.

Incubate only for 15 minutes at 37°C.

Spin at 500 G for 5 minutes (1000-2000 RPM on swinging  
bucket Beckman).

## V. DNAase TREATMENT

Remove supernatant and any DNA gel layer from cell  
pellet (or pick up and remove pellet with pipette).

Move cell pellet to DNAase solution.

Triturate with 10 ml pipette, x15-20.

Layer cell suspension over the "10 and 10" solution by  
pipetting it against the side of the tubes.

Spin again at 500 G for 5 minutes (cells will spin  
into "10 and 10" layer).

Wash tube sides with plating media without disturbing  
pellet.

Pipette off the media wash and repeat the wash.

## DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL

## VI. PLATE

Add about 4.5 ml plating media to each pellet for 5 ml volume.

5 Re-suspend with 10 ml pipette.

Pool cells into a single tube.

Quickly add 10 $\mu$ l of the suspended cells to a hemocytometer so that they do not settle.

10 Count cells per large square, corresponding to 10 million cells/ml.

Put re-suspended cells into a larger container so that they number 2.5 million cells/ml.

Triturate to homogeneity.

15 Finish coating plates:

Aspirate or dump Lysine;

Wash x1 with sterile water and dump.

20 Add plating media, with cells, to the plates as follows:

35 mm dishes                      2 ml/dish;

6 well plate                      2 ml/well;

12 well plate                      1 ml/well;

24 well plate                      500  $\mu$ l/well.

## DISSOCIATED CULTURE PROTOCOL

## VII. FEED

Cultures are usually made on Thursdays.

Start feeding twice a week; beginning the following Monday, feedings on Mondays and Fridays.

Remove 50% of volume and replace with fresh growth media.

b. Ischemic Insult using potassium cyanide and  
2-deoxyglucose

Twenty-one to twenty-four days following the initial cortical cell plating, the experiment is performed. The cultures are washed three times in HEPES buffered saline solution containing no phosphate. The cultures are then exposed to potassium cyanide (KCN) (5mM) and 2-deoxyglucose (2-DG) (10mM) for 20 minutes at 37°C. These concentrations were shown previously to induce maximal toxicity (Vornov et al., J. Neurochem, 1995, Vol. 65, No. 4, pp. 1681-1691). At the end of 24 hours, the cultures are analyzed for release of the cytosolic enzyme lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), a standard measure of cell lysis. LDH measurements are performed according to the method of Koh and Choi (J. Neuroscience Methods, 1987).



c. NAAG Induced Neurotoxicity

Cultures are assessed microscopically and those with uniform neuronal densities are used in the NAAG neurotoxicity trials.

5           At the time of the experiment, the cultures are washed once in HEPES-buffered saline solution (HBSS; NaCl 143.4 mM, HEPES 5 mM, KCl 5.4 mM, MgSO<sub>4</sub> 1.2 mM, NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 1.2 mM, CaCl<sub>2</sub> 2.0 mM, D-glucose 10 mM) (Vornov et al., 1995) and then exposed to various concentrations of NAAG  
10           for 20 minutes at 37°C. NAAG concentrations range from 3 μM to 3 mM, and include 3 μM, 10 μM, 30 μM, 100 μM, 300 μM, 1 mM, and 3 mM. At the end of exposure, the cells are washed once with HEPES buffered saline solution and then replaced with serum free modified Earle's basal  
15           medium. The cultures are then returned to the CO<sub>2</sub> incubator for 24 hour recovery.

d. Lactate Dehydrogenase Assay

          Release of the cytosolic enzyme lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), a standard measure of cell lysis, is  
20           used to quantify injury (Koh and Choi, 1987). LDH-activity measurements are normalized to control for variability between culture preparations (Koh et al., 1990). Each independent experiment contains a control condition in which no NAALADase inhibitors are added; a  
25           small amount of LDH activity is found in these controls. This control measurement is subtracted from each

experimental point. These values are normalized within each experiment as a percentage of the injury caused by NAAG/ischemia. Only main effects of NAALADase inhibitors are considered; interactions between dose and condition are not examined statistically.

A measurement of the potency of each compound tested is made by measuring the percentage of LDH release into the growth media after exposure to NAAG/ischemia plus NAALADase inhibitor or NAAG/ischemia plus saline (control). Since high concentrations of glutamate may be toxic to cells in certain circumstances, measurement of glutamate toxicity is observed using LDH as a standard measurement technique.

#### In Vivo Assay of NAALADase Inhibitors on Infarct Volume

To examine the in vivo effect of NAALADase inhibitors on infarct volume, injury to the cortex was evaluated in three groups of rats following middle cerebral artery occlusion. In the control group, the rats received saline. In another group, the rats received 10 mg/kg of 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid followed by 2 mg/kg/hr of 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid for 1 hour. In the final group, the rats received 100 mg/kg of 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid followed by 20 mg/kg/hr of 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid for one hour.

The cortical injury volume for each group of rats is provided in TABLE IX below and graphically represented in FIG. 5.

5

TABLE IX

10

15

Cortical Injury Volume (mm <sup>3</sup> )±S.E.M.	
Control	184.62±33.52 (n=10)
10 mg/kg	135.00±32.18 (n=10)
100 mg/kg	65.23±32.18 (n=10)
Cortical Injury Volume (% injury)±S.E.M.	
Control	34.44±6.53 (n=10)
10 mg/kg <sup>3</sup>	29.14±7.68 (n=10)
100 mg/kg	13.98±6.64 (n=10)
Cortical Protection (% protection)	
Control	0%
10 mg/kg	27%
100 mg/kg	65%

20

The results show that cortical injury volume decreased and cortical protection increased as the amount of NAALADase inhibitor increased, further supporting the

experimental point. These values are normalized within each experiment as a percentage of the injury caused by NAAG/ischemia. Only main effects of NAALADase inhibitors are considered; interactions between dose and condition are not examined statistically.

A measurement of the potency of each compound tested is made by measuring the percentage of LDH release into the growth media after exposure to NAAG/ischemia plus NAALADase inhibitor or NAAG/ischemia plus saline (control). Since high concentrations of glutamate may be toxic to cells in certain circumstances, measurement of glutamate toxicity is observed using LDH as a standard measurement technique.

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neuroprotective effects of the compounds of the present invention.

Protocol for In Vivo Cortical Injury Assay

5           A colony of SHRSP rats is bred at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine from three pairs of male and female rats obtained from the National Institutes of Health (Laboratory, Sciences Section, Veterinary Resources Program, National Center for Research Resources, Bethesda, MD). All rats are kept in a virus-free environment and maintained on regular diet (NIH 31, Zeigler Bros, Inc.) with water ad libitum. All groups of rats are allowed to eat and drink water until the morning of the experiment.

10

15           Transient occlusion of the middle cerebral artery (MCA) is induced by advancing a 4-0 surgical nylon suture into the internal carotid artery (ICA) to block the origin of the MCA (Koizumi, 1986; Longa, 1989; Chen, 1992). Briefly, animals are anesthetized with 4% halothane, and maintained with 1.0 to 1.5 % halothane in air enriched oxygen using a face mask. Rectal temperature is maintained at  $37.0 \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  throughout the surgical procedure using a heating lamp. The right femoral artery is cannulated for measuring blood gases

20

25           (pH, oxygen tension [PO<sub>2</sub>], carbon dioxide tension [PCO<sub>2</sub>]) before and during ischemia, for monitoring blood pressure

during the surgery. The right common carotid artery (CCA) is exposed through a midline incision; a self-retraining retractor is positioned between the digastric and mastoid muscles, and the omohyoid muscle is divided.

5 The right external carotid artery (ECA) is dissected and ligated. The occipital artery branch of the ECA is then isolated and coagulated. Next, the right internal carotid artery (ICA) is isolated until the pterygopalatine artery is exposed, and carefully

10 separated from the adjacent vagus nerve. The pterygopalatine artery is ligated with 4-0 silk suture close to its origin.

After the CCA is ligated with 4-0 silk suture, a 4-0 silk suture to prevent bleeding from a puncture site,

15 through which a 2.5 cm length of 4-0 monofilament nylon suture (Ethilon), its tip rounded by heating near a electric cautery, is introduced into the ICA lumen. A 6-0 silk suture is tightened around the intraluminal nylon suture at the bifurcation to prevent bleeding, and the

20 stretched sutures at the CCA and the ICA are released. The nylon suture is then gently advanced as far as 20 mm.

Anesthesia is terminated after 10 minutes of MCA occlusion in both groups, and animals awakened 5 minutes thereafter. After 2 hours of ischemia, anesthesia is

25 reanesthetized, and reperfusion is performed by withdrawing the intraluminal nylon suture until the

distal tip became visible at the origin of the ICA.

Arterial pH and PaCO<sub>2</sub>, and partial pressure of oxygen (PaO<sub>2</sub>) are measured with a self-calibrating Radiometer electrode system (ABL 3; Copenhagen, Denmark).

5 Hemoglobin and arterial oxygen content are measured with a hemoximeter (Radiometer, Model OSM3; Copenhagen, Denmark). Blood glucose is measured with a glucose analyzer (model 2300A, Yellow Springs Instruments, Yellow Springs, OH).

10 Each group is exposed to 2 hours of right MCA occlusion and 22 hours of reperfusion. All variables but the rectal temperature are measured at baseline, at 15 minutes and 45 minutes of right MCA occlusion. The rectal temperature is measured at baseline, at 0 and 15  
15 min of MCA occlusion, and at 0 and 22 hours of reperfusion.

In Vitro Assay of NAALADase Inhibitors  
on Cancer

20 To examine the effect of NAALADase inhibitors on cancer cell line, LNCAP cells (a prostate cancer cell line) were treated with quisqualate acid (in concentrations ranging from 10 nM to 1  $\mu$ M) and 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid (in concentrations  
25 ranging from 100 pM to 10 nM). The 3H-thymidine measurement for each concentration of quisqualate acid

and 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid is provided in TABLE X below and graphically represented in FIGS. 6 and 7, respectively.

5

TABLE X

<u>3H-Thymidine Incorporation (dpm/well)</u>			
	<u>Dose</u>	<u>Quisqualic Acid</u>	<u>2-(phosphonomethyl)- pentanedioic acid</u>
10	Control	4813 $\pm$ 572	4299 $\pm$ 887
	10 pM	--	3078 $\pm$ 1006
	100 pM	--	2062 $\pm$ 595
15	1 nM	3668 $\pm$ 866	1001 $\pm$ 52
	10 nM	2137 $\pm$ 764	664 $\pm$ 366
20	100 nM	1543 $\pm$ 312	--
	1 $\mu$ M	1295 $\pm$ 181	--

25

The results show that LNCAP cell proliferation (as measured by the incorporation of 3H-thymidine) decreased significantly as the concentration of the NAALADase inhibitors increased, suggesting that the compounds of the present invention would be effective in treating cancer, particularly prostate cancer.

30

Protocol for In Vitro Cancer Assay

Cells in RPMI 1640 medium containing 10% Fetal Calf Serum (FCS) are plated in 24 well plates and allowed to



adhere for 24 hours before addition of quisqualic acid  
( $10^{-9}$  to  $10^{-6}$ ) or 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid ( $10^{-11}$   
to  $10^{-8}$ ) for 7 days. On the 7th day, the cells are  
pulsed with  $^3\text{H}$ -thymidine for 4 hours, harvested and  
5 measured for radioactivity. Values represent means  $\pm$  SEM of 6 separate cell wells for each treatment. All experiments are performed at least twice.

To control for non-specific cytostatic effects of  
quisqualate acid and 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic  
10 acid, the agents are simultaneously evaluated on a non-  
NAALADase containing prostate cell line, DU145 (Carter et  
al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, (93) 749-753, 1996). If  
the treatments with quisqualate acid and 2-  
(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic have no significant effect  
15 on cell growth, the NAALADase inhibiting activity of the  
agents are uniquely responsible for their cytostatic  
effects on prostate carcinoma cell lines.

#### Cell Lines and Tissue Culture

LNCAP cells are obtained from Dr. William Nelson at  
20 the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, MD.  
DU145 cells are obtained from American Type Culture  
Collection (Rockville, MD). Cells are grown in RPMI-1640  
media supplemented with 5% heat-inactivated fetal calf  
serum, 2 mM-glutamine, 100 units/ml penicillin, and 100  
25  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  streptomycin (Paragon) in a humidified incubator at  
37°C in a 5%  $\text{CO}_2$ /95% air atmosphere.

[3H] Thymidine Incorporation Assays

The cells are suspended at  $1 \times 10^3$  cells/ml in RPMI-1640 media and seeded into 24-well plates at 500  $\mu$ l per well. After 24 hour incubation, various concentrations of quisqualic acid (Sigma) or the potent NAALADase inhibitor 2-(phosphonomethyl)pentanedioic acid (synthesized according to the methods of Jackson et al., J Med Chem 39(2) 619-622) is added to the wells and the plates are returned to the incubator. On days 3, 5 and 7, media and drug are refreshed. On the 8th day following seeding, each well is pulsed with 1  $\mu$ Ci  $^3$ H-thymidine (New England Nuclear) for 4 hours. Media is then removed and the wells washed 2 times with phosphate buffered saline (pH=7.4). The contents of each well is subsequently solubilized 250  $\mu$ l of 0.2 N NaOH and transferred to scintillation vials. 5 ml UltimaGold (Packard) scintillation cocktail is added and radioactivity is quantitated using a Beckman LS6001 scintillation counter.

The purity and/or identity of all synthetic compounds is ascertained by thin layer chromatography, High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), mass spectrometry, and elemental analysis. Proton Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectra are obtained using a Bruker spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million relative to tetramethylsilane as

internal standard. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) is conducted on prelayered silica gel GHLF plates (Analtech, Newark, DE). Visualization of the plates is accomplished by using UV light, phosphomolybdic acid-ethanol, and/or iodoplatinate charring. Flash chromatography is conducted on Kieselgel 60, 230-400 mesh (E. Merck, Darmstadt, West Germany). Solvents are either reagent or HPLC grade. Reactions are run at ambient temperature and under a nitrogen atmosphere unless otherwise noted. Solutions are evaporated under reduced pressure on a Buchi rotary evaporator.

#### EXAMPLES

The following examples are illustrative of the present invention and are not intended to be limitations thereon. Unless otherwise indicated, all percentages are based upon 100% by weight of the final composition.

#### EXAMPLE 1

##### Preparation of 2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid

##### Preparation of dibenzyl 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioate

To a solution of dibenzyl 2-methylenepentanedioate (12.16 g, 37.5 mmol) in acetone (100 ml), was added benzylmercaptan (9.31 g, 75.0 mmol) and 4-

dimethylaminopyridine (0.46 g, 3.75 mmol) with stirring. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hours. The cooled solution was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by column chromatography to yield 15.2 g (90  
5 % of clear oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.0 (m, 2H), 2.3 (m, 2H), 2.5 (m, 1H), 2.6 (m, 2H), 3.6 (s, 2H), 4.9 (s, 2H), 5.0 (m, 2H), 7.2-7.5 (m, 15H).

Preparation of 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioic  
acid

10 To a cooled solution (5°C) of dibenzyl 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioate (15.2 g, 33.9 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (750 ml) was added 0.1 N NaOH (745 ml, 74.5 mmol NaOH) with stirring. The cloudy reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After  
15 16 hours, the reaction mixture had become homogenous. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to remove the tetrahydrofuran. The remaining aqueous solution was washed with ethyl acetate, then made acidic (pH 1) with concentrated HCl. The mixture was extracted  
20 twice with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting waxy solid was purified by column chromatography to yield 6.9 g (76%) of white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO): δ 1.7 (m, 2H), 2.2 (t, 2H), 2.3-2.6 (m, 3H), 3.8 (s, 2H), 7.3 (s, 5H).

Preparation of 2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid

To a cooled mixture (-78°C) of 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid (5.2 g, 19.4 mmol) in dichloromethane (100 ml) was added 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (85%, 3.9 g, 19.4 mmol) with stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 1 hour at -78°C, then allowed to warm to room temperature. If starting material was still present according to analysis by TLC, the reaction was cooled again to -78°C and additional 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (2-4 mmol depending on the intensity of the starting material spot) added and the reaction mixture allowed to warm at room temperature. This was repeated until no more starting material was detected by TLC. The dichloromethane was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography to yield 3.8 g (69 %) of white solid.

20

EXAMPLE 2

Preparation of 2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid

Preparation of dibenzyl 2-

[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioate

25

To a solution of dibenzyl 2-methylenepentanedioate (12.16 g, 37.5 mmol) in acetone (100 ml), was added

benzylmercaptan (9.31 g, 75.0 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.46 g, 3.75 mmol) with stirring. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hours. The cooled solution was concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by column chromatography to yield 15.2 g (90 %) of clear oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.0 (m, 2H), 2.3 (m, 2H), 2.5 (m, 1H), 2.6 (m 2H), 3.6 (s, 2H), 4.9 (s, 2H), 5.0 (m, 2H), 7.2-7.5 (m, 15H).

Preparation of dibenzyl 2-

10 [(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioate

To a cooled solution (-78°C) of dibenzyl 2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioate (8.2 g, 18.3 mmol) in dichloromethane (100 ml), was added 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (85%, 8.2 g, 40.3 mmol) with stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. White solids precipitated from the reaction mixture. After 2 hours at room temperature, the reaction mixture was filtered and the white solids washed with dichloromethane. The filtrate was washed twice with a saturated aqueous solution of sodium bicarbonate and the dichloromethane removed under reduced pressure. The resulting oil was purified by column chromatography to yield 7.5 g (85%) of clear oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.0 (m, 2H), 2.3 (t, 2H), 3.1 (m, 1H), 2.9 & 3.4 (ddd, 2H), 4.2 (s, 2H), 5.1 (s, 2H), 5.2 (s, 2H), 7.2-7.4 (m, 15H).

Preparation of dibenzyl 2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid

A mixture of dibenzyl 2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]-  
pentanedioate (1.1 g, 2.3 mmol), palladium on carbon  
5 catalyst (10%, 0.6 g) and water (25 ml) was shaken under  
hydrogen (60 psi) for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was  
filtered over celite and the filtrate was lyophilized to  
yield 0.62 g (90 %) of grayish-white crystals. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  
(d6-DMSO): δ 1.8 (m, 2H), 2.2 (t, 2H), 2.8 (m, 1H), 3.1-  
10 3.5 (ddd, 2H), 4.5 (s, 2H), 7.4 (s, 5H). Anal. Calcd.  
for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>SO<sub>6</sub> - 0.65 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 50.04; H, 5.59; S, 10.28.  
Found: C, 49.99; H, 5.52; S, 10.07.

## EXAMPLE 3

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Preparation of 2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acidPreparation of dibenzyl 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioate

To a solution of dibenzyl 2-methylenepentanedioate  
20 (12.16 g, 37.5 mmol) in acetone (100 ml), was added  
benzylmercaptan (9.31 g, 75.0 mmol) and 4-  
dimethylaminopyridine (0.46 g, 3.75 mmol) with stirring.  
The reaction mixture was refluxed for 16 hours. The  
cooled solution was concentrated under reduced pressure  
25 and purified by column chromatography to yield 15.2 g (90  
%) of clear oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.0 (m, 2H), 2.3 (m,

2H), 2.5 (m, 1H), 2.6 (m, 2H), 3.6 (s, 2H), 4.9 (s, 2H), 5.0 (m, 2H), 7.2-7.5 (m, 15H).

Preparation of 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid

5 To a cooled solution (5°C) of dibenzyl 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioate (15.2 g, 33.9 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (750 ml) was added 0.1 N NaOH (745 ml, 74.5 mmol NaOH) with stirring. The cloudy reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After  
10 16 hours, the reaction mixture had become homogenous. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to remove the tetrahydrofuran. The remaining aqueous solution was washed with ethyl acetate, then made acidic (pH 1) with concentrated HCl. The mixture was extracted  
15 twice with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting waxy solid was purified by column chromatography to yield 6.9 g (76%) of white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d6-DMSO): δ 1.7 (m, 2H), 2.2 (t, 2H), 2.3-2.6 (m, 3H), 3.8 (s, 2H), 7.3 (s, 5H).

20 Preparation of 2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid

To a cooled mixture (-78°C) of 2-[(benzylsulfanyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid (5.2 g, 19.4 mmol) in dichloromethane (100 ml) was added 3-  
25 chloroperbenzoic acid (85%, 3.9 g, 19.4 mmol) with stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for



1 hour at  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ , then allowed to warm to room temperature. If starting material was still present according to analysis by TLC, the reaction was cooled again to  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$  and additional 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (2-  
5 4 mmol depending on the intensity of the starting material spot) added and the reaction mixture allowed to warm at room temperature. This was repeated until no more starting material was detected by TLC. The dichloromethane was removed under reduced pressure and  
10 the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography to yield 3.8 g (69 %) of white solid.

Preparation of 2-

[(benzylsulfoximiny)l)methyl]pentanedioic acid

To a mixture of 2-[benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentane-  
15 dioic acid (2.0 g, 7.0 mmol) in chloroform (20 ml) was added sodium azide (0.5 g, 7.7 mmol) and concentrated sulfuric acid (0.7 g, 7.0 mmol) with stirring. After 16 hours, water was added to the reaction mixture and additional chloroform. The chloroform layer was removed  
20 and saved and the aqueous layer was washed again with chloroform. The combined chloroform extracts were concentrated under vacuum and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography to yield 0.80 g (38%) of white solid.

## EXAMPLE 4

A patient is at risk of injury from an ischemic event. The patient may be pretreated with an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is  
5 expected that after the pretreatment, the patient would be protected from any injury due to the ischemic event.

## EXAMPLE 5

A patient is suffering from an ischemic event. The  
10 patient may be administered during the event, or within a 30 minute window after the event, an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would recover or would not suffer any significant injury due to the  
15 ischemic event.

## EXAMPLE 6

A patient has suffered injury from an ischemic event. The patient may be administered an effective  
20 amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would recover from the injury due to the ischemic event.

## EXAMPLE 7

25 A patient is suffering from a glutamate abnormality. The patient may then be administered an effective amount

of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from further injury due to the glutamate abnormality or would recover from the glutamate abnormality.

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**EXAMPLE 8**

A patient is suffering from or has suffered from a nervous insult, such as that arising from a neurodegenerative disease or a neurodegenerative process.

10 The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from further injury due to the nervous insult or would recover from the nervous insult.

15

**EXAMPLE 9**

A patient is suffering from Parkinson's disease. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected  
20 that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from further neurodegeneration or would recover from Parkinson's disease.

**EXAMPLE 10**

25 A patient is suffering from ALS. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of

the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from further neurodegeneration or would recover from ALS.

5

**EXAMPLE 11**

A patient is suffering from epilepsy. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from further neurodegeneration or would recover from epilepsy.

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**EXAMPLE 12**

A patient is suffering from abnormalities in myelination/demyelination processes. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from further neurodegeneration or would recover from the abnormalities in myelination/demyelination processes.

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**EXAMPLE 13**

A patient is suffering from or has suffered from a cerebrovascular accident, such as stroke. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from

25

or would recover from any injury due to the cerebrovascular accident.

#### EXAMPLE 14

5           A patient is suffering from a head trauma. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any ischemic brain, spinal or  
..10       peripheral injury resulting from the head trauma.

#### EXAMPLE 15

          A patient is suffering from a spinal trauma. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of  
15       a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any ischemic injury resulting from the spinal trauma.

#### EXAMPLE 16

20           A patient is about to undergo surgery. The patient may be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would not develop any ischemic  
25       brain, spinal or peripheral injury resulting from or associated with the surgery.

## EXAMPLE 17

A patient is suffering from focal ischemia, such as that associated with thromboembolytic occlusion of a cerebral vessel, traumatic head injury, edema or brain tumors. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any brain, spinal or peripheral injury resulting from the focal ischemia.

## EXAMPLE 18

A patient is suffering from global ischemia. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any brain, spinal or peripheral injury resulting from the global ischemia.

## EXAMPLE 19

A patient is suffering from a cardiac arrest. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any ischemic brain, spinal or peripheral injury associated with the cardiac arrest.

**EXAMPLE 20**

A patient is suffering from hypoxia, asphyxia or perinatal asphyxia. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any ischemic brain, spinal or peripheral injury associated with the hypoxia, asphyxia or perinatal asphyxia.

**EXAMPLE 21**

A patient is suffering from a cerebro-cortical injury. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any ischemic brain injury resulting from the cerebro-cortical injury.

**EXAMPLE 22**

The patient is suffering from an injury to the caudate nucleus. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from or would recover from any ischemic brain injury resulting from the injury to the caudate nucleus.

## EXAMPLE 23

A patient is diagnosed with a condition as identified in these examples. An effective amount of a compound of the present invention may then be administered to the patient intravenously, intramuscularly, intraventricularly to the brain, rectally, subcutaneously, intranasally, through a catheter with or without a pump, orally, through a transdermal patch, topically, or through a polymer implant. After the treatment, the patient's condition would be expected to improve.

## EXAMPLE 24

A patient is diagnosed with a condition as identified in these examples. A compound of the present invention may then be administered to the patient in the form of a 100 mg/kg bolus, optionally followed by a 20 mg/kg per hour intravenous infusion over a two-hour period. After the treatment, the patient's condition would be expected to improve.

## EXAMPLE 25

A patient is suffering from a cortical injury due to a condition identified in these examples. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. It is expected that



after the treatment, the patient would be protected from further injury, or would exhibit at least 65% to at least 80% recovery from the cortical injury.

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## EXAMPLE 26

A patient is suffering from adenocarcinoma of the prostate. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention. After this initial treatment, the patient may optionally  
10 be administered the same or a different compound of the present invention in intermittent or continuous doses by subdural pump. It is expected that the treatment(s) would prevent recurrences of the adenocarcinoma, or inhibit (i.e., arrest development of) or relieve (i.e.,  
15 cause regression of) the adenocarcinoma tumor cells.

## EXAMPLE 27

A patient is suffering from adenocarcinoma of the prostate. The patient may then be administered an  
20 effective amount of a compound of the present invention by direct injection into the tumor. After this initial treatment, the patient may optionally be administered an effective amount of the same or a different compound of the present invention in intermittent or continuous doses  
25 by implantation of a biocompatible polymeric matrix delivery system. It is expected that the treatment(s)

would prevent recurrences of the adenocarcinoma, or inhibit (i.e., arrest development of) or relieve (i.e., cause regression of) the adenocarcinoma tumor cells.

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**EXAMPLE 28**

A patient is diagnosed with benign prostatic hyperplasia. The patient may then be administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention by direct injection into the tumor. After this initial  
10 treatment, the patient may optionally be administered the same or a different compound of the present invention in intermittent or continuous doses by injection, subdural pump or polymeric matrix implant. It is expected that after the treatment(s), the benign prostatic hyperplastic  
15 cells would not develop into carcinoma.

**EXAMPLE 29**

A patient is suffering from adenocarcinoma of the prostate. The adenocarcinoma does not appear to have  
20 metastasized. The patient undergoes surgery to remove the adenocarcinoma. After post-surgical recovery, the patient may be locally administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention in intermittent or continuous doses by injection, subdural pump or polymeric  
25 matrix implant. It is expected that after the treatment, the patient would be protected from recurrences of the

adenocarcinoma, and any residual tumorous cells would be inhibited (i.e., arrested in development) or relieved (i.e., caused to regress).

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**EXAMPLE 30**

A patient is suffering from metastatic adenocarcinoma of the prostate. Although the adenocarcinoma appears to have metastasized, the patient nevertheless undergoes surgery to remove the adenocarcinoma. The patient may then be locally administered an effective amount of a compound of the present invention approximately from the time of initial diagnosis through post-surgical recovery. After post-surgical recovery, the patient may continue the same treatment by a regimen of periodic local administration, and carefully monitored for adverse side-effects. It is expected that after the treatments, the patient would be protected from recurrences of the adenocarcinoma, and any residual tumorous cells would be inhibited (i.e., arrested in development) or relieved (i.e., caused to regress).

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**EXAMPLE 31**

A patient is suffering from cancer as defined herein. An effective amount of a compound of the present invention may be administered directly to the cancer

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cells. After this initial treatment, the patient may be optionally administered an effective amount of the same or a different compound of the present invention by direct injection, subdural pump or implantation of a biocompatible polymeric matrix delivery system. It is expected that after the treatment(s), the patient would be protected from recurrences of the cancer, and the cancer would be inhibited (i.e., arrested in development) or relieved (i.e., caused to regress).

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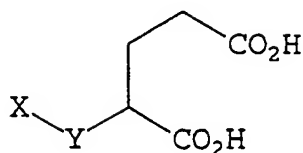
The invention being thus described, it will be obvious that the same may be varied in many ways. Such variations are not to be regarded as a departure from the spirit and scope of the invention and all such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of the following claims.

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## WE CLAIM:

1. A compound of formula I:

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I

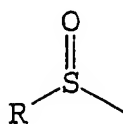
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof,

10

wherein:

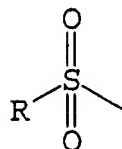
X is selected from the group consisting of

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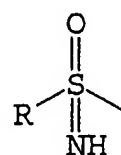
II

and



III

and



IV

Y is  $\text{CR}_1\text{R}_2$ ,  $\text{NR}_3$  or O;

20

R,  $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  straight or branched chain alkyl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6$  straight or branched chain alkenyl,  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$  cycloalkyl,  $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_7$  cycloalkenyl and Ar, wherein said R,  $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are independently unsubstituted or substituted with  $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$  cycloalkyl,  $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_7$  cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  straight or branched chain alkyl,  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6$  straight or branched chain

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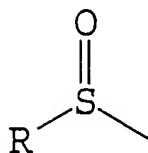
alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar or mixtures thereof; and

Ar is selected from the group consisting of 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-indolyl, 3-indolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said Ar having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino and mixtures thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein at least one of said R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> is/are independently substituted with C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar or mixtures thereof.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is CH<sub>2</sub>.

4. The compound of claim 3, wherein X is



II

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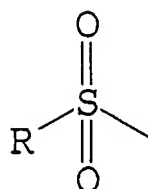
5. The compound of claim 4, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl.

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6. The compound of claim 5, which is selected from the group consisting of:

- 2-[(sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(methylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(ethylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 15 2-[(propylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(butylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(2-phenylethyl)sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(3-phenylpropyl)sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 20 2-[(4-pyridyl)sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and
- 2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

7. The compound of claim 3, wherein X is



III

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8. The compound of claim 7, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

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9. The compound of claim 8, which is selected from the group consisting of:

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2-[(sulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(methylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(ethylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(propylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(butylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

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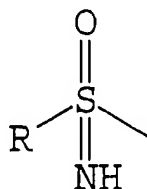
2-[(phenylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(2-phenylethyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;



2-[[[(3-phenylpropyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[[(4-pyridyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

5 10. The compound of claim 3, wherein X is



IV

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11. The compound of claim 10, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

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12. The compound of claim 11, which is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

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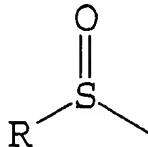
- 2-[(propylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[[(2-phenylethyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
5 2-[[[(3-phenylpropyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic  
acid;  
2-[[[(4-pyridyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

- 10 13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:  
(i) a therapeutically effective amount of the  
compound of claim 1; and  
(ii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

- 15 14. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13,  
wherein in said compound, at least one of said R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>  
and R<sub>3</sub> is/are independently substituted with C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>  
cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, hydroxy, halo, nitro,  
trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl,  
20 C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-  
C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar or mixtures  
thereof.

- 25 15. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13,  
wherein in said compound, Y is CH<sub>2</sub>.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein in said compound, X is



II

17. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(methylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(ethylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(propylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(butylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

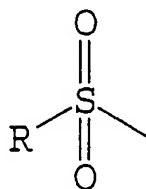
2-[(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[[[(2-phenylethyl)sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[[(3-phenylpropyl)sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[[(4-pyridyl)sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

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19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15,  
wherein in said compound, X is

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III

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20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 19,  
wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group  
consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain  
alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to  
three substituent(s) independently selected from the  
group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>  
cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-  
C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or  
branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy,  
phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

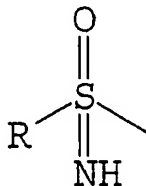
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21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20,  
wherein said compound is selected from the group  
consisting of:

- 2-[(sulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
5 2-[(butylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
10 2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15,  
wherein in said compound, X is

15



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23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22,  
20 wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group  
consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain  
alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to  
three substituent(s) independently selected from the  
group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>  
25 cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-  
C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or

branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23,  
5 wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
10 2-[(propylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[2-(2-phenylethyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[3-(3-phenylpropyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic  
15 acid;  
2-[[4-(4-pyridyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

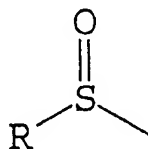
25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13,  
20 further comprising a therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of therapeutic hormones, chemotherapeutic agents, monoclonal antibodies, anti-angiogenesis agents, radiolabelled compounds, antineoplastic agents and mixtures thereof.

26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein said compound is present in an amount that is effective for inhibiting NAALADase activity in an animal, treating a glutamate abnormality in an animal or treating  
5 a prostate disease in an animal.

27. A method of inhibiting NAALADase enzyme activity in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 to said  
10 animal.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein in said compound, Y is CH<sub>2</sub>.

15 29. The method of claim 28, wherein in said compound, X is



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20

30. The method of claim 29, wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three  
25 substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>

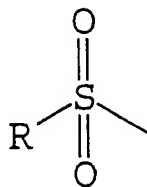
cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

5

31. The method of claim 30, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

- 2-[(sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
10 2-[(ethylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
15 2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

32. The method of claim 28, wherein in said  
20 compound, X is



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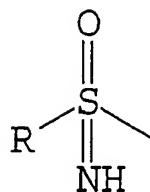
25



33. The method of claim 32, wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three  
5 substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy,  
10 phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:  
2-[(sulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
15 2-[(methylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
20 2-[[ (2-phenylethyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

25 35. The method of claim 28, wherein in said compound, X is



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36. The method of claim 35, wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

15

37. The method of claim 36, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

20

2-[(sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(methylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(ethylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(propylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[(butylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

25

2-[(phenylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[[[(3-phenylpropyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[[[(4-pyridyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and

2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

5

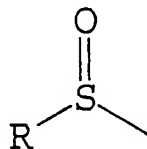
38. A method of treating a glutamate abnormality in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 to said animal.

10

39. The method of claim 38, wherein in said compound, Y is CH<sub>2</sub>.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein in said compound, X is

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41. The method of claim 40, wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or

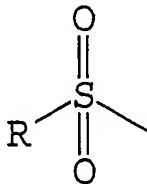
25

branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein said compound  
5 is selected from the group consisting of:  
2-[(sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
10 2-[(butylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
15 2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

43. The method of claim 39, wherein in said compound, X is

20



III

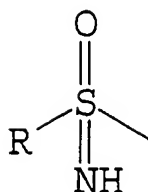
44. The method of claim 43, wherein in said  
25 compound, R is selected from the group consisting of  
hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-

pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

45. The method of claim 44, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(sulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[2-(2-phenylethyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[3-(3-phenylpropyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[4-(4-pyridyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

46. The method of claim 39, wherein in said compound, X is



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47. The method of claim 46, wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

15

48. The method of claim 47, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

20 2-[(sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(methylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
25 2-[(phenylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(2-phenylethyl)sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

25

2-[[[(3-phenylpropyl)sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

2-[[[(4-pyridyl)sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid; and

2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

5

49. The method of claim 38, wherein said glutamate abnormality is selected from the group consisting of epilepsy, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's Disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS),  
10 Huntington's Disease, schizophrenia, chronic pain, ischemia and neuronal insult.

50. The method of claim 49, wherein said glutamate abnormality is ischemia.

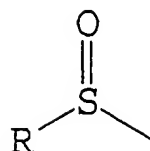
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51. A method of treating a prostate disease in an animal, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 to said animal.

20

52. The method of claim 51, wherein in said compound, Y is CH<sub>2</sub>.

53. The method of claim 52, wherein in said compound, X is



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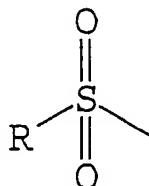
54. The method of claim 53, wherein in said compound, R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three  
10 substituent(s) independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy,  
15 phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

55. The method of claim 54, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:  
2-[(sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
20 2-[(methylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(propylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
25 2-[[ (2-phenylethyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl) sulfinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;



2-[[ (4-pyridyl)sulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

56. The method of claim 52, wherein in said  
5 compound, X is



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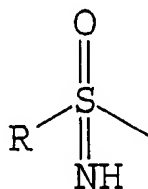
57. The method of claim 56, wherein in said  
compound, R is selected from the group consisting of  
hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-  
pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three  
15 substituent(s) independently selected from the group  
consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>  
cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-  
C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or  
branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy,  
20 phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

58. The method of claim 57, wherein said compound  
is selected from the group consisting of:

2-[(sulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
25 2-[(methylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(ethylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;

- 2-[(propylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(butylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[(phenylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (2-phenylethyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
5 2-[[ (3-phenylpropyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;  
2-[[ (4-pyridyl)sulfonyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and  
2-[(benzylsulfonyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

59. The method of claim 52, wherein in said  
10 compound, X is



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60. The method of claim 59, wherein in said  
compound, R is selected from the group consisting of  
hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, 4-  
pyridyl, benzyl and phenyl, said R having one to three  
20 substituent(s) independently selected from the group  
consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>  
cycloalkenyl, halo, hydroxy, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-  
C<sub>6</sub> straight or branched chain alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> straight or  
branched chain alkenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyloxy,  
25 phenoxy, benzyloxy, amino, Ar and mixtures thereof.

61. The method of claim 60, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

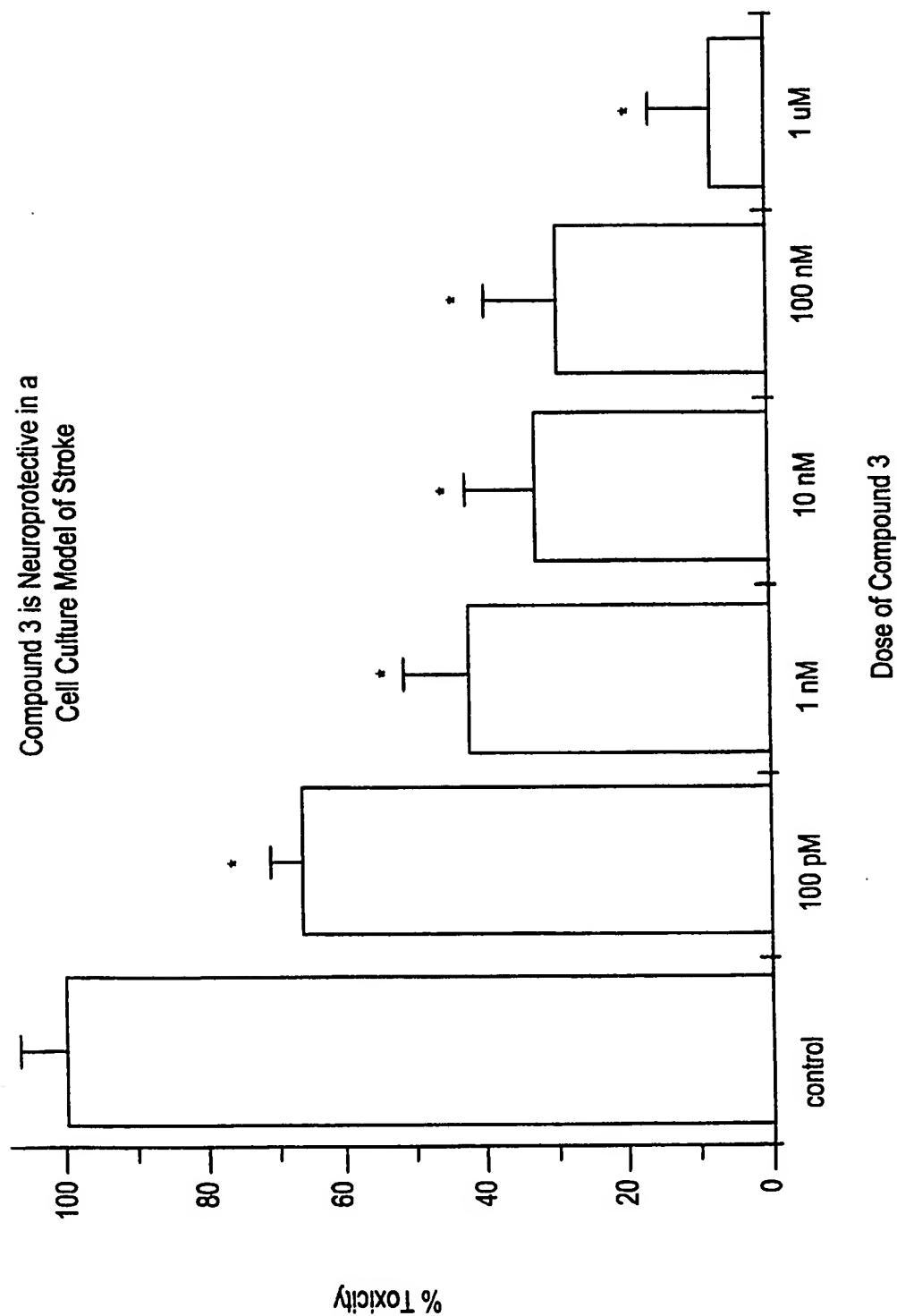
- 2-[(sulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(methylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 5 2-[(ethylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(propylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(butylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(phenylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(2-phenylethyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 10 2-[(3-phenylpropyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid;
- 2-[(4-pyridyl)sulfoximinyl]methyl]pentanedioic acid; and
- 2-[(benzylsulfoximinyl)methyl]pentanedioic acid.

15 62. The method of claim 51, wherein said prostate disease is prostate cancer or benign prostatic hyperplasia.

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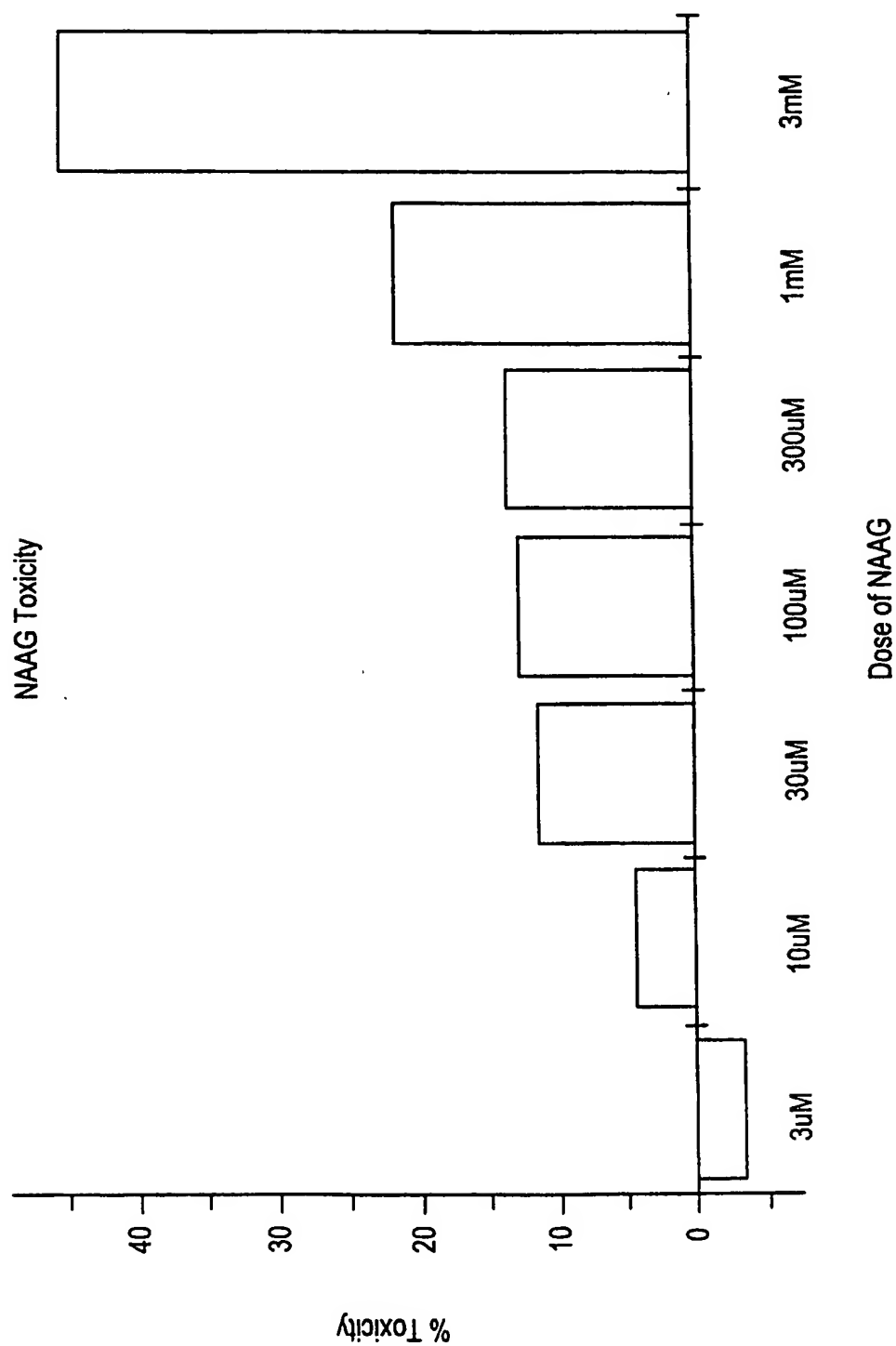
**FIG.1**

Compound 3 is Neuroprotective in a  
Cell Culture Model of Stroke

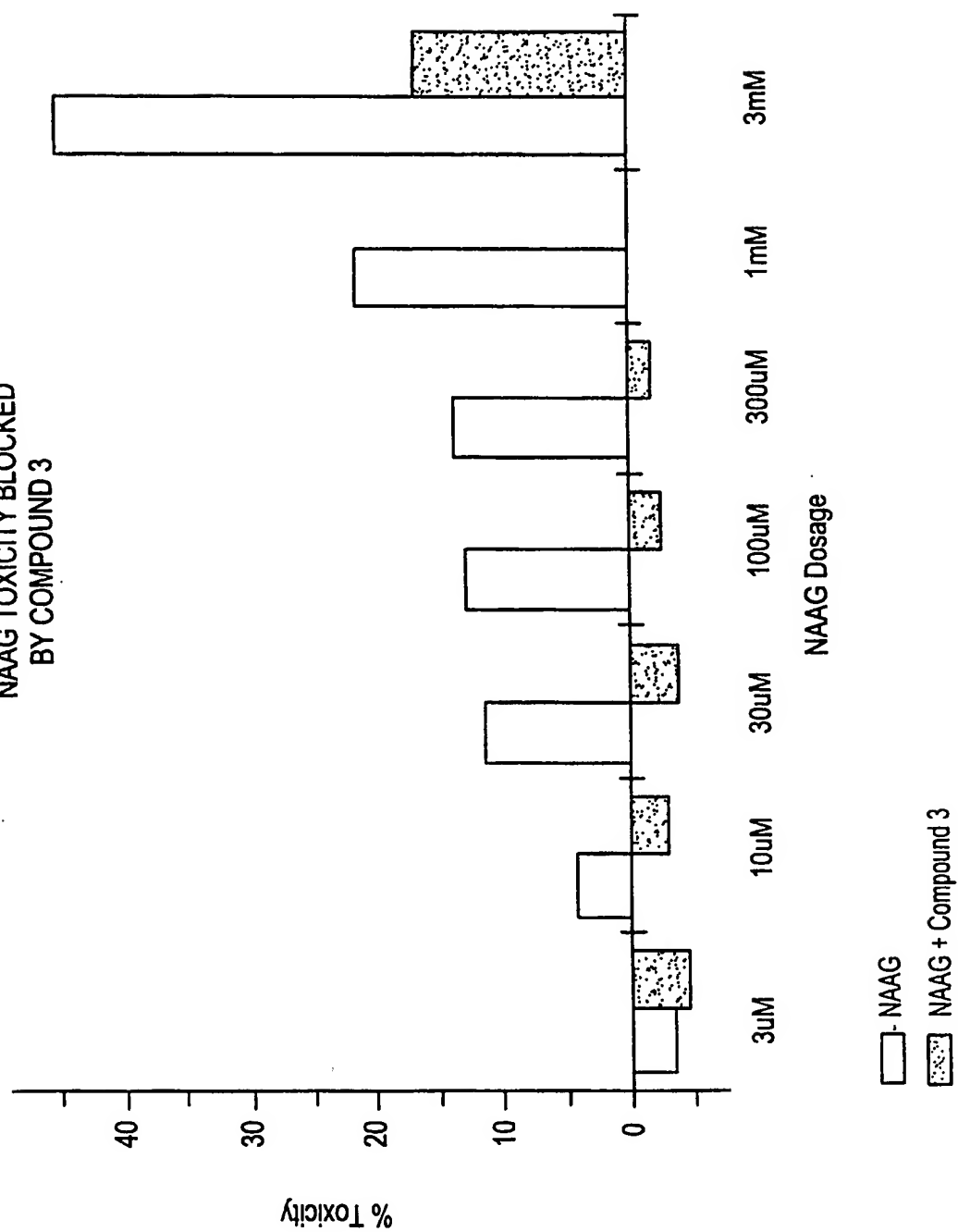


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FIG.2



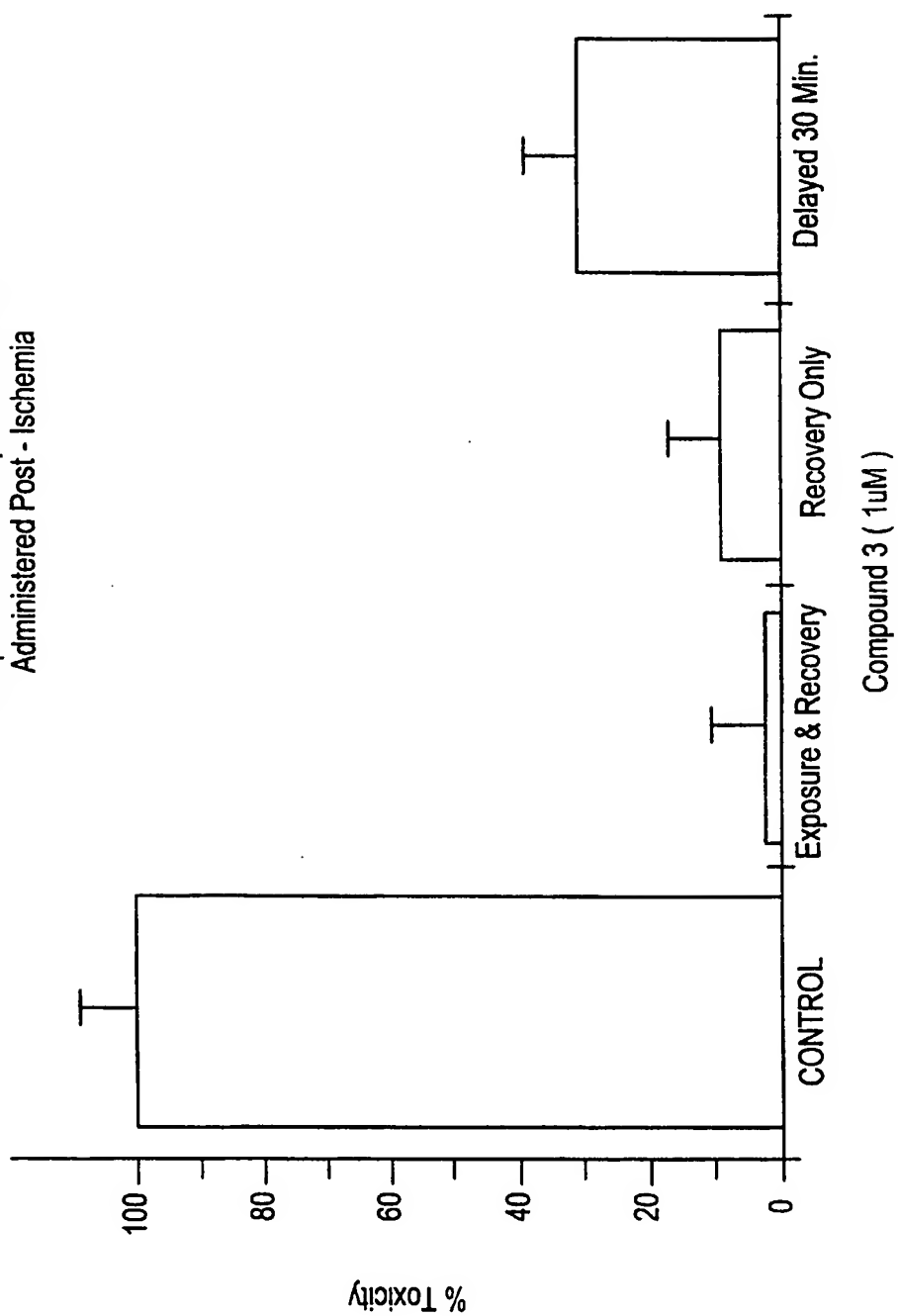
3 / 7

**FIG.3**NAAG TOXICITY BLOCKED  
BY COMPOUND 3

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FIG.4

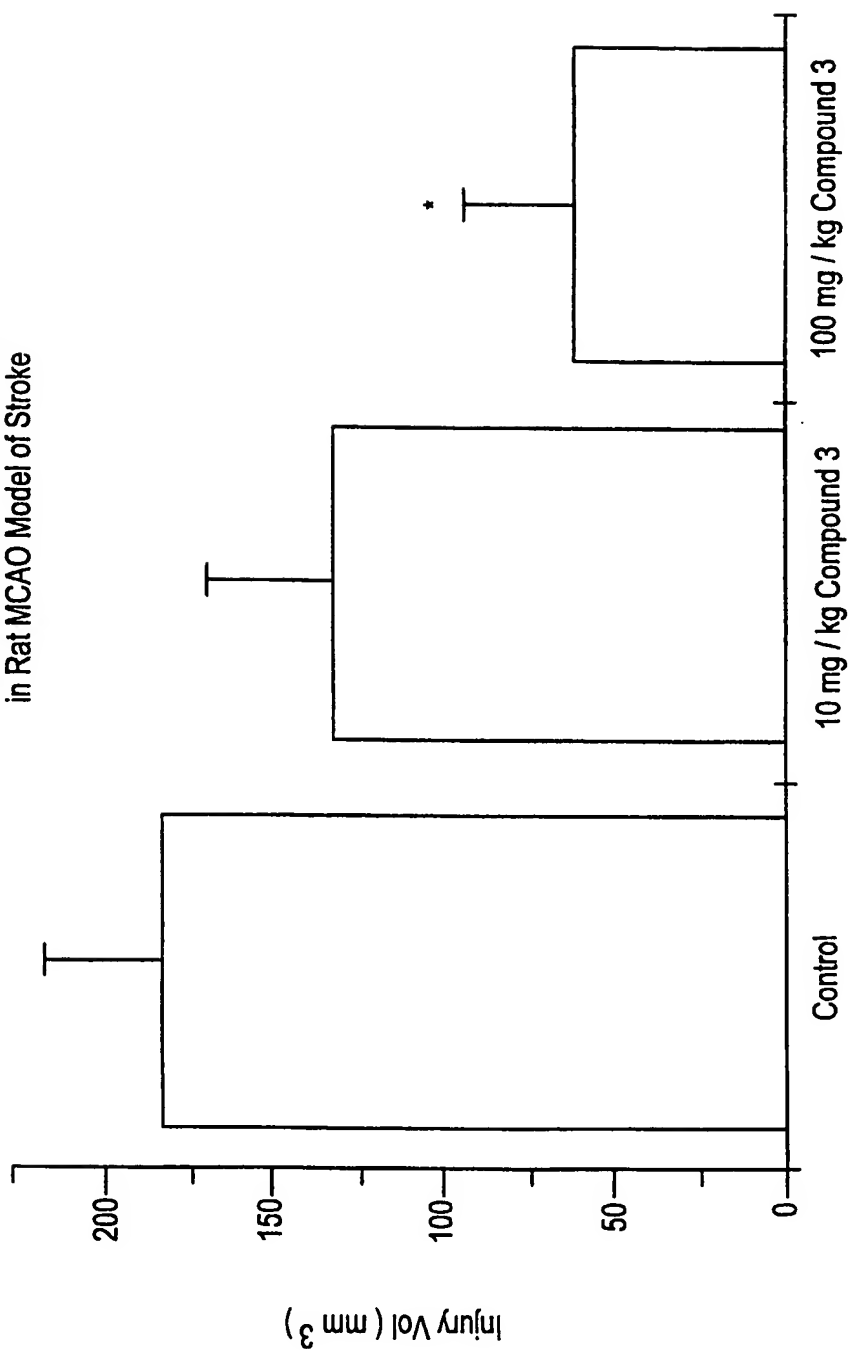
Compound 3 is Neuroprotective When  
Administered Post - Ischemia



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**FIG.5**

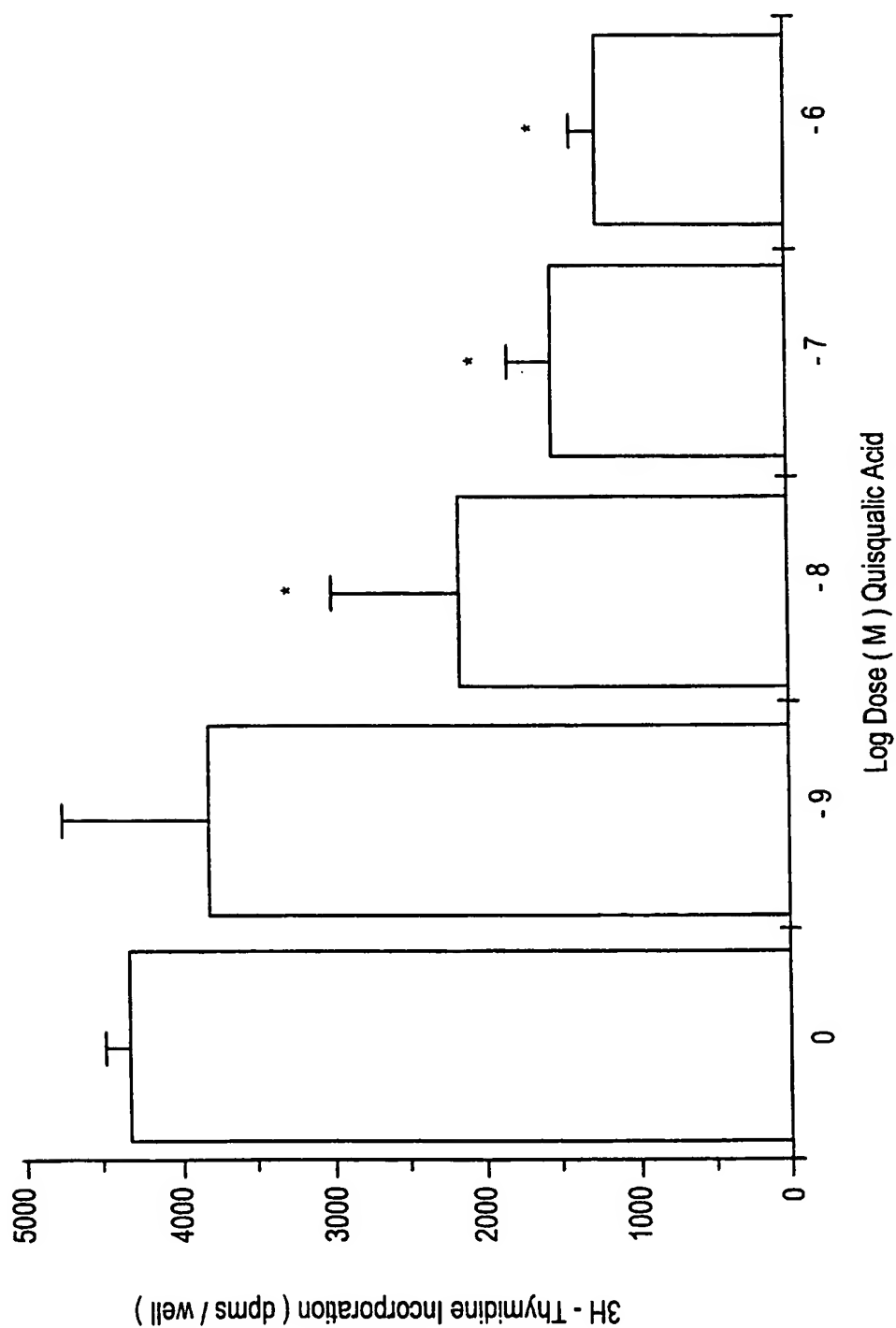
Compound 3 is Neuroprotective  
in Rat MCAO Model of Stroke





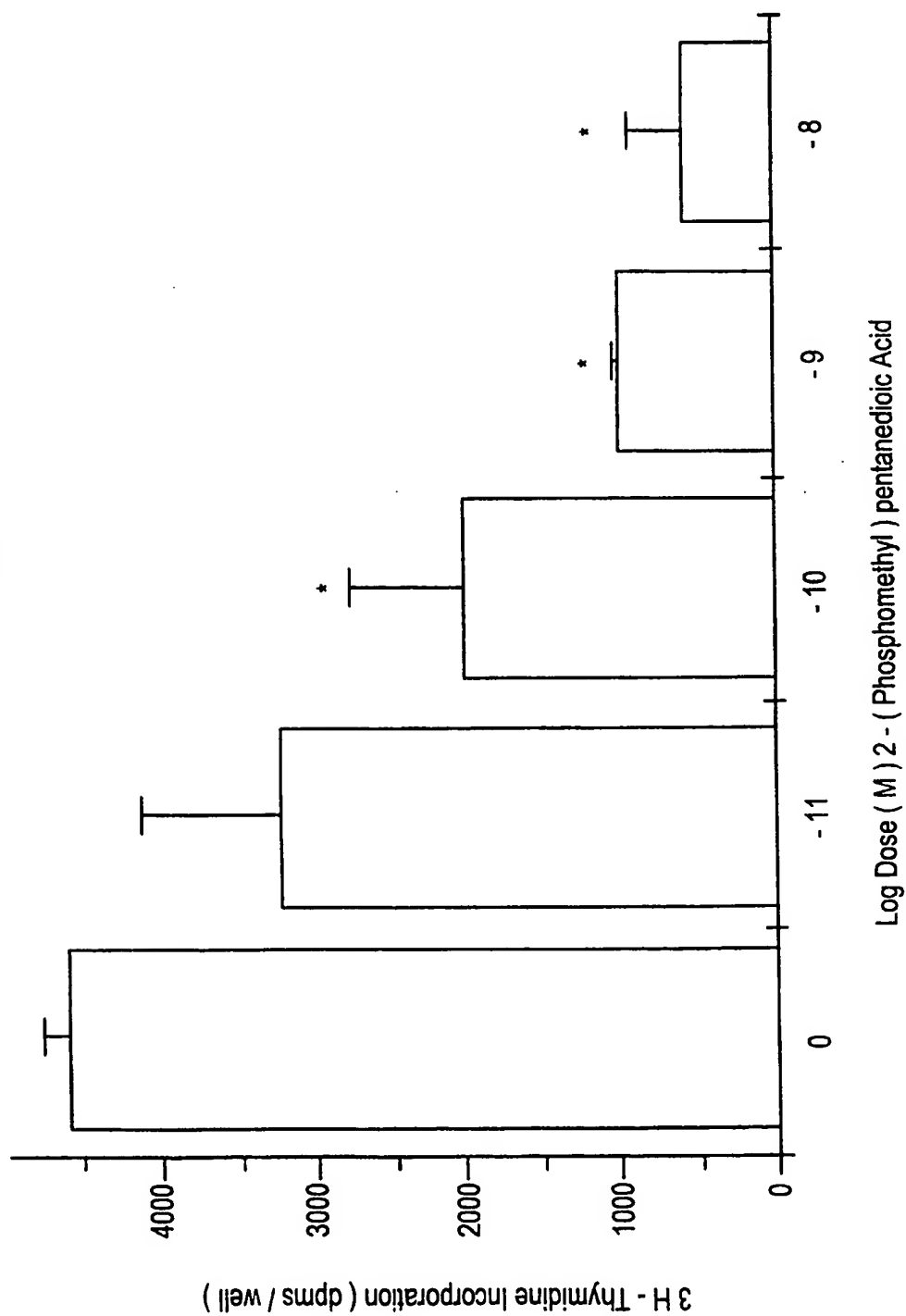
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FIG.6



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FIG.7



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/US 98/06583

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 C07C317/44 C07C381/10 C07D213/71 A61K31/19 A61K31/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 C07C C07D A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	H.B. MILNE, ET AL.: "The use of benzensulphonyl chloride in peptide synthesis" JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, vol. 79, no. 2, 5 February 1957, WASHINGTON, DC, US, pages 639-644, XP002030836 see table I, entry 10 ---	1,2
X	V. GUT, ET AL.: "Amino acids and peptides. CII. Large-scale preparation of ornithine from glutamic acid" COLLECTION OF CZECHOSLOVAK CHEMICAL COMMUNICATIONS, vol. 36, no. 10, 1971, PRAGUE CS, pages 3470-3475, XP002072187 see compound I --- -/--	1,2



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 July 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

03/08/1998

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English, R

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter national Application No

PCT/US 98/06583

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	T. POLONSKI: "Circular dichroism spectra and molecular geometry of six-membered ring anhydrides and imides" JOURNAL OF THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY, PERKIN TRANSACTIONS 1, no. 3, 1988, LETCHWORTH, GB, pages 639-648, XP002072188 see page 646, right-hand column, paragraph 1 ---	1,2
A	N. SUBASINGHE, ET AL.: "Synthesis of acyclic and dehydroaspartic acid analogues of Ac-Asp-Gu-OH and their inhibition of rat brain N-acetylated alpha-linked acidic dipeptidase (NAALA Dipeptidase)" JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 33, no. 10, October 1990, WASHINGTON, DC, US, pages 2734-2744, XP000652345 see the whole document ---	1,13,27
A	P.F. JACKSON, ET AL.: "Design, synthesis, and biological activity of a potent inhibitor of the neuropeptidase N-acetylated alpha-linked acidic dipeptidase" JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 39, no. 2, 19 January 1996, WASHINGTON, DC, US, pages 619-622, XP002072189 see the whole document -----	1,13,27

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 98/ 06583

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 27-62  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Remark: Although claims 27-62  
are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal  
body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged  
effects of the compound/composition.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such  
an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all  
searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment  
of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report  
covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is  
restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.